

PM holds hard line on pit closure procedure

Hailsham backs down

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3,000 soldiers, police involved in Molesworth night mission • CND, Labour promise protests

Heseltine defends military operation

By Paul Brown, Colin Brown, and Paul Keel

Mr Michael Heseltine yesterday defended the unprecedented military operation involving 3,000 soldiers and police to clear 150 demonstrators from the Molesworth cruise missile site in Cambridgeshire.

The Defence Secretary who sported a black jacket to visit the site around which Royal Engineers erected a 6ft high 7½-mile long barbed wire fence said that the operation was an effective, and money-saving way of protecting Molesworth during building operations to prepare for the scheduled completion of 64 missiles.

Condemnation came quickly from Labour MPs and from CND. The shadow defence secretary, Mr Denis Davis, said that Mr Heseltine had "own a hundred dragons" teeth. The protest will not only go on, it will intensify because of what you have done this morning.

Mr Heseltine, who spoke in the Commons after visiting Molesworth, said that he had taken the decision to secure the base, chosen as Britain's second cruise site, against demonstrators last November. He had informed the Prime Minister some considerable time after that.

What I have done is secure the maintenance of law and order and a legitimate right of my department to use its own land for its own purpose. This determination that we shall in this country live within the law is highly repugnant to the opposition," he said.

His ministry is understood to be anxious to avoid a repetition.

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Mr Michael Heseltine, wearing a military camouflage jacket over his suit, talking to troops at RAF Molesworth yesterday

Reagan pledges desire to reach agreement on arms

From Alex Brummer in Washington

President Reagan last night prepared to deliver a State of the Union address expressing his determination for "lasting agreements" at the Geneva arms talks but denouncing alleged Soviet aggression in Central America.

The wide-ranging speech included new proposals for sweeping tax reforms in the US, and called on Western countries to join a "round of trade negotiations" aimed at reducing protectionism. The nationally broadcast speech before a joint session of Congress, was Mr Reagan's fourth such address and was delivered on his 74th birthday.

Mr Reagan, clearly seeking a place in the history books, stressed in the address the need to lift the threat of nuclear war, resolve dangerous conflicts, and strengthen and expand democracy worldwide. He made it clear, however, that the US would need to show resolve if the Soviet Union was to accept arms reductions and make a special case to Congress for \$4 billion in funds to build 49 more MX-intercontinental missiles.

Central America was accorded pride of place in the foreign policy section of the

Thatcher claim on detainees debunked

By Patrick Keatley, Diplomatic Correspondent

THE FAMILIES of the four Britons who will be arriving tonight at Gatwick, after nine months of detention in Libya, are furious with what they see as a last-minute attempt by Mrs Thatcher to board the bandwagon.

Last night the wives and relatives strongly endorsed the firm statement issued at Lambeth Palace by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, which they see as a necessary rebuttal to the words used by 10 Downing Street on Tuesday evening.

These referred to that day's news of the long-awaited decision to set the four men free, and recalled that the relatives had been invited to meet the Prime Minister last October 17. The key phrase which has caused deep offence said:

At the same suggestion she wrote the same day to the Archbishop of Canterbury, suggesting that Mr Waite might go to Tripoli to plead for their release; this was done by the Prime Minister as a compassionate act."

When the families read this in the paper yesterday morning they were upset and angry, and contacted Lambeth Palace to say so. At the Suffolk home of one of the four Britons, Mr Alan Russell, his wife's mother, Mrs Mary Walter, took out the diary she had kept meticulously from the day in May when the four Britons were arrested. This showed that she had herself been deputed by the others to brief Mrs Thatcher about Mr Waite at the Downing Street meeting, and how he had been directly in touch with them, in person, by letter and by telephone, over a three-month period beginning on July 12.

"We were informing her, and not the other way around," Mrs Walter said last night.

"We sometimes wish now we'd never done it. We did not suggest that Mrs Thatcher should write to the Archbishop. I am a very old-fashioned grandmother; I Turn to back page, col. 5

Ethiopia may spurn UN aid

From Iain Guest in Geneva

Ethiopia has threatened to break off relations with the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees on the grounds that the UNHCR has been biased against Addis Ababa, under pressure from the organisation's main donor, the United States, diplomats say.

This has intensified with the recent influx of Ethiopian refugees into the Sudan. According to UNHCR statistics, 230,000 have arrived since last October. The Ethiopian Ambassador here, Mr Kassa Kebede, said in a recent interview that UNHCR aid to the refugees was politically motivated, and that it was sucking people out of the country.

The aim, he said, was to dismember Ethiopia and create a human reservoir for the guerilla groups fighting the Government.

The Ethiopian anger has repeatedly been conveyed to UN officials in Addis Ababa and to the UN High Commissioner, Mr Paul Hartling. There is little doubt that it will further complicate the UN's emergency relief effort in the Horn, which is already struggling under awesome financial and logistical problems.

Mr Hartling is expected to arrive in Geneva today for the latest UNHCR appeal for refugees in the Horn. Since November 8, the UNHCR has made four appeals on behalf of the Sudanese refugees and managed to raise only \$18 million, which is totally inadequate to meet the emergency.

Diplomats here say the agency has decided to ask for several times that amount. It is not yet known how the money will be spent, although diplomats predict that the lion's share will go to the Sudan.

The rest will apparently be spent on the 700,000 refugees in Somalia. About 300,000 refugees will arrive in the Sudan in the next few months.

This seems likely to provoke the Ethiopians further, because another long-standing complaint against UNHCR is that it has consistently accepted "exaggerated" refugee estimates from Sudan and Somalia, while expressing scepticism about Ethiopia's estimates about the returnees from the Ogaden.

For some years the UNHCR worked on the assumption that 1.5 million refugees fled into Somalia, even though this figure was generally agreed to be inflated.

Officials are wearily resigned to the fact that whatever the agency does, it will be criticised. There is also a growing sense of distaste among relief agencies at the way governments on all sides are making political capital out of the African crisis.

over to the immigration service so that they can send them all back to Bongo Bongo land."

The nearest thing to denial in Whitehall yesterday was that the remark might have been said at a private meeting and such leaks were always regrettable, however unimportant.

Mr Clark, of Saltwood Castle, Kent, who confessed last year that he did not expect to keep his job after he had criticised defence policy on television, was uncharacteristically silent.

It was said on his behalf that he had no intention of resigning as a result of the motion denouncing him as unfit to hold his office.

There was no official comment from Downing Street, and no statement from the minister.

For once, Mr Clark had disappeared from public view, except that in his silence he was making more news than ever.

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Clark keeps silent over race row

By James Naughtie, Political Correspondent

Mr Alan Clark — right-wing iconoclast, historian and employment minister — was forced into a position of uncomfortable silence yesterday by whether he had referred to black Britons as denizens of Bongo-Bongo land.

For a son of Civilisation, it was an embarrassing affair. For a minister with responsibility in the Department of Employment for race relations, it was worse.

His office would not comment about reports that he had used the phrase in the course of a meeting with civil servants about ethnic monitoring.



Mr Alan Clark

the minister, after all, who has specialised in unorthodox utterances since Mrs Thatcher brought him into the Government from the far reaches of the back-benches after the 1983 election as if to bring a Waugh-like mixture of grumpiness and style to the Employment Department.

It was recalled that he said in an interview last year: "I was brought up behind the green baize door. This was de rigueur — among the upper

South Wales miners to urge return without NCB agreement

By John Ardill and Peter Hetherington

The national executive of the miners' union will today discuss a call for an organised return to work without a negotiated settlement of the pits dispute. But the extent of support for the plan, which is being pushed by the South Wales miners, is uncertain and there is some outright opposition.

An alternative which would buy the executive some time would be to accept the Durham area's request for a recalled national delegate conference.

Caifield dilemmas, page 4; Leader comment, page 12

ference. It may be necessary to do this in any case if the return to work plan finds favour, since the current strategy was authorised by the conference.

Although the Durham miners are asking for a conference to drum up extra support from other unions — and South Wales wants a recalled TUC congress for the same reason — it would give an opportunity to review strategy in the light of the accelerating drift back to work.

Mr Trevor Bell, moderate leader of the Union's white collar section, Coss, said last night that he would urge the executive to take "one last stab" at getting the National Coal Board to agree to talks without preconditions.

"We have got to make a renewed effort to get to the coal board with an agenda that says we will talk about everything and mean everything and see what we end up with... see if the executive is then in a position to refer something to the lads," he said.

The board's continued public insistence on an NUM written undertaking about pit closures before negotiations suggests that it is continuing to rely on the drift back to break the strike. Another 307 men returned yesterday.

But there have been discreet signals from some quarters of the board that if the executive says today that it is willing, without a written undertaking, to discuss the future, the board will find it difficult to refuse talks.

An indication of the need for an urgent solution was underlined yesterday with the closure of the key face at the Seafield colliery, in Fife, because of a fire.

The South Wales pressure for an organised return did not mean that the area would act alone, the leaders stressed.

But failure of the executive to take a firm decision could make it difficult for the South Wales leaders to hold back when area delegates meet, probably next week. One executive member suggested that South Wales was welcome to go back alone if it put a levy on its members to finance the strike elsewhere.

Even among executive members who would opt for an organised return if the only alternative was to sign an undertaking on closures there is a feeling that the South Wales move is premature.

The Derbyshire secretary, Mr Gordon Butler, will put another option to the executive today: that it declares a deadlock and puts the dispute to the national reference tribunal, the highest level in the industry's conciliation machinery.

he will also suggest that the executive challenges the board to say which pits it wants to close to achieve a 4 per cent reduction in capacity. Its secretary made it impossible for the union to consider discussing closures, he said.

Mr Butler also argues that the board's "turning point" when 51 per cent of miners are not on strike, would not be a defeat for the union because the large majority of those who have been on strike would still be on strike.

Mr David Bassett, leader of the General Municipal and Boilermakers' Union and one of the TUC leaders who have been monitoring the dispute

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Royal tobacco review

By Colin Brown, Political Staff

Leading cigarette manufacturers may have to remove the Royal warrant from their packs as part of a review instituted by the Queen after public pressure for the Royal Family to drop its apparent support for tobacco products.

The review was disclosed in a letter from the Lord Chamberlain's office on behalf of the Queen to Mr Ernie Roberts, the Labour MP for Hackney North, who led protests in the Commons for the withdrawal of the Royal warrant.

Mr Roberts, who tabled a Commons motion signed by over 30 MPs last November calling for the withdrawal of the warrant, wrote to the Queen in January.

In the reply the Lord Chamberlain's office said neither the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Queen Mother nor the Prince and Princess of Wales smoked.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

'Freeze' at Aids gaol

THE movement of prisoners has been halted at Chelmsford, Essex, gaol while a medical team investigates the Aids cases which followed the death of the prison chaplain. Back page.

Anzus threat

NEW ZEALAND would not be intimidated into accepting nuclear warships by US threats of economic and security retaliation, its prime minister, Mr David Lange, said yesterday. Page 8.

Courts review

A REVIEW aimed at simplifying civil court litigation was announced yesterday. Page 2.

Acorn crisis

ACORN, the BBC micro-computer firm, asked for a temporary suspension of its shares yesterday amid a financial crisis. Page 22.

Off-strike

WORKERS at one of Britain's most successful oil rigs, the world's largest, went on strike for more pay. Page 8.

School disruption

HUNDREDS of children will miss school today as teachers' disruptive pay campaign bites. Back page.

The weather

MILD with rain. Details, back page.

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FOR three and a half weeks, a disagreement involving the WGA composing room chapels in London has meant the late production of the Guardian. Accordingly, readers in some areas — especially Scotland, the West, Wales and parts of the North and Midlands — have experienced sporadic supplies of the paper, while readers in other areas have not been served as we would have wished. The Guardian apologises to all those affected.

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Hailsham orders civil court inquiry

By Malcolm Dean

A review of civil justice aimed at reducing the delay, cost and complexity of civil litigation was announced yesterday by Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor.

It will be run by the Lord Chancellor's department and will start with a review of personal injury cases but go on to look at small claims, debt, housing and commercial cases. Chancery, which has already been reviewed, and matrimonial procedure which is being reviewed at present by the Booth committee will not be included.

Factual studies will be commissioned from outside management consultants. A 10-member independent advisory committee which will include a judge, solicitor and barrister, will monitor the exercise.

The inquiry will not be popular with judges and practising lawyers who would prefer the review to be in the hands of an outside body on which they were heavily represented.

Lord Hailsham said yesterday that his internal review would be quicker, less conservative because it did not have special interests to defend and more effective. He wanted it completed within three years but believed that some decisions could be taken earlier.

Sir Derek Oulton, the permanent secretary of the Lord Chancellor's department, said that the department wanted to educate itself about the defects in the system.

It would not be a secretive review and there would be a consultative document dealing with each area so that the professionals could respond.

The civil courts cost £101 million to administer last year plus £22 million in judges' salaries and pensions. Some £104 million was recovered in fees. Civil legal aid amounted to £132 million, almost £90 million of which was spent on matrimonial proceedings.

The review will examine whether the pace of a case should be left to the parties or if the court should impose some form of time limit as the criminal courts are about to do.

The average county court case takes 15 months but some cases can take 21 years. The average high court civil case takes 21 years but can take as long as eight years.

Four experimental schemes in which offenders will offer reparations to their victims are to be funded by the Home Office for two years at a cost of £200,000 a year.

Offenders may be able to avoid prosecution if they can reach an agreement on reparation with their victim in minor cases the victim might be satisfied with an apology but more serious offenders will have to carry out work for the victim.

Arson charge

A 19-year-old youth appeared before Birmingham magistrates yesterday charged with arson after a shop blast on Sunday in which two people died. Zahoor Ahmed, of Small Heath, Birmingham, was remanded in custody for a week.

OBITUARY

Writer of thrillers

JAMES HADLEY CHASE, the British crime and thriller writer, died yesterday at his home in Corsaux-sur-Vecy, Switzerland, aged 78.

The author, whose real name was Rene Raymond, wrote some 80 novels, of which perhaps the best known was No Orchids For Miss Blandish. Many of his works were translated into other languages. They were the subjects of some 20 films and a dozen plays.

Born in London on December 24, 1906, Raymond took the pseudonym of James Hadley Chase in 1938, when he began his career as a crime and thriller writer. He settled in France in 1956 before moving to Switzerland in 1967.

Announcing his death yesterday, his wife refused to give further details, saying: "He always hated publicity and I am not going to give him publicity because he died."

Leics. cricketer

LES BERRY, one of the finest cricketers to play for Leicestershire, has died at the age of 73. His career total of 30,143 runs at an average of 30.32 during 605 appearances between 1924 and 1951 is still unrivalled and his tally of 45 centuries is the best in the club's history.

An opening batsman of impeccable technique, Berry's best season was 1937.

Point-blank bulldozing of Rainbow Village

Paul Brown on the evacuation of Molesworth—a shock for protesters but a red letter day for locals

PEACE campers at the proposed cruise missile site at Molesworth were surrounded and overwhelmed by police and army convoys which converged on them late on Tuesday night. Occupants of the "Rainbow Village," with its windmills, part-built chapel, and cornfield, was given one hour to move or be bulldozed.

It took several hours for those willing to go to pack up their belongings, start up their buses and vans, and drive a hundred yards to the road outside. Later, those refusing or unable to move were towed or bulldozed out of the way.

The operation, which Mr Michael Heseltine said later had been planned for five months, began at 11.30 pm. Royal Engineers with their equipment, 600 Ministry of Defence police, and 1,000 civil police drove in from three directions to evict the 150 peace campers.

The sappers immediately trained floodlights on the camp and began building a barbed wire fence, which included the use of live wire. The police also began to erect a proper fence. Much of their equipment had been brought in by the army under cover of darkness.

Five men were arrested as the way caravans were being towed by contractors. While CND groups with placards stood at road blocks, local people celebrated. Mr John Hunting, aged 55, who farms the field next to the base, said: "It is bloody marvelous — it is the best thing that's happened in two years. They have been using my fields as a public convenience, burning the wood and poaching the wildlife."

The local postmistress, Mr Jean Latchford, who called police 11 days ago after claiming that she had been intimidated by campers, said she was "very, very

pleased" by the eviction. "I was going to close down and give up the shop but now I feel I can stay," she added.

A pest controller, Mr John McDonald, who has lived for 12 years on the edge of the airfield and claims squatter's rights, said: "We are not against nuclear disarmament but this lot of peace campers are a load of rabble."

Despite the destruction of the Rainbow Camp, another peace camp remains on the other side of the base. This is on an old battle path outside the base premises and was untouched by yesterday's events. Northampton County Council has so far failed to evict occupants of the camp.

Mr Chris Noone, aged 44, a Christmas Island test veteran who has lived there for two years, said: "I hope we can stay here and continue to protest. I am here because I was used as a guinea pig at Christmas Island. We were not told then what was happening and we are not told now."

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Ex-minister gives evidence for Ponting

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Mr Merlyn Rees, the former Labour Home Secretary, told the jury in the Ponting case yesterday that if a civil servant had got nowhere with his superiors over a crisis of conscience about what ministers had been telling parliament he should not simply resign and say nothing.

"Assuming that the avenues have been followed through, I could not accountability and truthfulness," he said. Appearing as a defence witness, he said that ministers should protect security to "the Nth degree." But he added: "If I felt there had been a breach of security I would not have come this morning."

Ministers were responsible to parliament and accountable for their actions. A civil servant must be loyal to ministers and the government, but his loyalty to his nation was far greater than those two put together, said Mr Rees.

Earlier, Professor Henry Wade, professor of English law at Liverpool University, told the jury that constitutional conventions, which could not operate unless ministers gave truthful information to parliament, were not rules of law. "If a civil servant should be convinced that it is in the public interest to give that information to parliament," he said.

Lord Rayner, chairman of the Prime Minister's former adviser on Whitehall efficiency, said in a written submission to the court that Mr Ponting's work with him in Whitehall had been outstanding. He handed difficult tasks with distinction and had the strength of character to make a report with authority.

Mr Ponting's wife, Sally, told the jury that on August 14 last year Mr Richard Hastie-Smith, chief personnel officer at the Ministry of Defence, told her that his clear preference was that Mr Ponting's resignation would be acceptable. He had said that there might be a prosecution under the Official Secrets Act, but that was unlikely.

Later, in the absence of the jury, the judge heard discussion between defence and prosecution counsel about legal definitions of the offence and the terms of the judge's pending summing-up to the jury.

Mr Ponting is charged with sending two documents to the Labour MP, Mr Tam Dalyell, under an article in section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, which states that information should not be communicated to a person other than a person to whom he is authorised to communicate it or a person to whom it is in the interest of the state his duty to communicate it.

The trial continues.

Council chief linked to property firm, MP claims

By a Correspondent

Police are investigating alleged links between Liverpool Council's deputy leader, Mr Derek Hatton, and a property firm which won a contract to build a £10 million supermarket.

Liverpool Labour Party's executive approved the proposal for an ASDA store after previously approving plans for shops in the retail-free Speke enterprise zone.

Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Mossley Hill, said in a House of Commons motion: "This house deplores the close connection between Mr Derek Hatton and Mr Tony Beyga, who is employed by Merseypride, the would-be developers."

It believes Merseypride police should urgently investigate this link, especially bearing in mind their recent holiday in North Africa.

Mr Alton said Mr Hatton, a Militant Tendency supporter, had been on holiday in Tangier with Mr Beyga, Merseypride's public relations manager and a Labour councillor in Knowsley, Merseyside.

They have been friends for about 15 years and met ASDA and union officials informally to discuss the plan.

Two days ago the Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, said that a planning application would be considered by his department, not the council, because of special rules governing enterprise zones.

A police spokesman said yesterday that Mr Hatton and Mr



Derek Hatton—denies claims

Beyga will be questioned during the inquiries.

Mr Hatton said: "I welcome this investigation because, hopefully, it will put an end to all the allegations, rumors and innuendoes of the last few days from people who have got nothing better to do."

He works as a community development officer with Knowsley Council, where Mr Beyga is chairman of the economic development committee.

BS strike ends

A 10-day strike at British Steel's Cumbria Engineering subsidiary ended yesterday when 300 engineers and boilermakers agreed to work a five-day week of day and night shifts pending talks at national level.

Managers plan for Arts Council

By Nicholas de Jongh, Arts Correspondent

The Arts Council, which is now facing the most radical structural changes in its 40-year history, is likely to be controlled by managers within the next two years. They would work with the council's finance and policy committee and the power of departmental directors would inevitably be reduced. The council's specialist advisory panels would cease to have any vital functions.

The Minister for the Arts, Lord Gower, and the chairman of the Arts Council, Sir William Rees-Mogg, are believed to have approved a proposal by Mr Basil Dennis, the management consultant who has reviewed the council's internal structure, that managers should be appointed, at assistant secretary general level, to be responsible for budgetary and administrative matters.

Mr Dennis's proposals are being considered by council working parties, but the plan for managers is by far the most controversial and significant.

He has suggested that four managers should be appointed. The first would oversee budgetary and administrative matters as they apply to the council's 200 annual revenue clients. Another manager would deal with grants for special projects and individuals, a third would be responsible for the regions and a fourth would take over a department for research, education, information and publicity.

By next year, the council will be dealing with a budget of about £120 million and the minister is believed to feel that there should be strict financial controls in its distribution.

The Arts Council announced grants for four national companies yesterday. The National Theatre is to receive £6,705,200 in 1985-86, an increase of only £129,000 on the previous year. English National Opera, which is in severe financial difficulties as a result of a deficit incurred during its 1984 American tour, will receive an even smaller increase. It is to be given only £116,000 more than in 1984-85, when it received £5,918,250.

A British scientist startled drinkers in an Australian outback saloon in the 1950s by turning up with a Geiger counter in search of fallout from atom bomb tests which had just taken place nearby.

Mr James Hole, a safety specialist from Aldermaston, donned his earphones in the only bar in the settlement of Omslow on the Australian coast, north of Perth. He

Family's baby birth evidence conflicts at murder case inquiry

From Joe Joyce to Dublin

A brother and aunt of Miss Joanne Hayes, the woman at the centre of the "Kerry Babies" inquiry in Ireland, have disputed her account of how she gave birth to a child alone in a field last April.

Her brother, Mike, and her aunt, Miss Bridie Fuller, have told the judicial inquiry into the police handling of a murder investigation that the child was born in a bedroom in a family home. Miss Fuller, a retired nurse, said she assisted in the birth but the baby boy died several hours later.

This unexpected development has raised questions about the credibility of the family's evidence which is central to the inquiry. Miss Hayes, her mother, sister and another brother have already given sworn evidence that a baby was not born in the house and that no one else was present at the birth.

The inquiry, under a High Court judge, Mr Kevin Lynch, is looking into the circumstances which led to Miss Hayes being charged with the murder of an infant which she stabbed 28 times. She and other members of her family signed statements in police custody which described the stabbing in detail.

But her sister subsequently brought police to the body of another baby which Miss Hayes said she had hidden on the family farm near Tralee, in County Kerry. Forensic tests showed that the stabbed baby died a different blood group from that of Miss Hayes' married lover and the second baby.

The police persisted with the charges, which were eventually dropped by the Director of Public Prosecutions in October. The public inquiry was ordered by the Irish Government after an internal police investigation had failed to resolve the conflicts in the case.

The family claim that they were put under pressure by detectives to make false confessions. The month-old public hearing in Tralee has been highly controversial, especially because of the lengthy cross-examination to which Miss Hayes was subjected. There were numerous protests over the questioning about her sexual activity and private life, which was compared to old-style legal treatment of rape victims.

Miss Fuller, aged 69, told the tribunal yesterday that the baby was born in the house in the presence of Miss Hayes' mother, sister and herself.

Giving evidence from a wheelchair in Tralee general hospital, where she is recovering from a stroke, Miss Fuller said she had cut the umbilical cord with scissors.

'Poisoned herd' farmer halts sale of milk

By Sarah Boseley

A Scottish farmer has taken the milk from his dairy herd off the market after finding evidence that his cattle are contaminated with highly poisonous dioxins, which they link to a nearby chemical disposal plant. The company denied the allegations.

Mr Andrew Graham is planning to sue Re-Chem International, the chemical waste disposal company, for £1 million. He claims that some of his animals have wasted away and died because of toxic emissions from the Re-Chem plant at Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire, near his farm at Denny.

Last year the plant, which had been the subject of an intensive campaign by environmentalists and local pressure groups, ceased its disposal of PCBs, a toxic industrial pollutant. The company said the operation was no longer economic.

Independent analysts from two universities have now supported Mr Graham's allegations after examining the herd, milk yield and veterinary records. Professor Alastair Hay, from Leeds University's department of chemical pathology, has advised Mr Graham to slaughter his herd after identifying the deadly dioxins which are supposed to be eliminated in the high-temperature incineration of PCBs which was carried out by Re-Chem.

A spokesman for Re-Chem's parent company, BET, said last night that the allegations were completely unfounded.

He claimed that other independent studies of soil in the area had indicated that there were dozens of sources of PCBs, from other industrial plants and even from agricultural chemicals, which were incinerated at low temperatures when farmers burned stubble in their fields.

In his letter of January 29 to Mr Graham's solicitor, Professor Hay said that a wide variety of dioxins were found in samples of soil, meat, fat and milk from the farm.

Animals contaminated with these chemicals should not be used as a source of food — meat or milk — for humans. The other analyst, Professor Larry Robertson from the Institute of Toxicology at Mainz University in West Germany, also links the dioxins in the herd to Re-Chem's incineration operation, suggesting that the PCBs may not have been completely destroyed.

Mr Graham said yesterday that the damage to his herd from the dioxins had ruined him. He claims that 156 of his cattle have died, and 140 calves have been born blind or deformed. He has 141 cattle left.

Prisoner's suicide

By Aileen Ballantyne

A 37-year-old remand prisoner with a history of mental illness, hanged himself after four hours in his cell at Brixton Prison in London.

According to Home Office Prison Department figures, the suicide is the tenth at the goal in two years.

Michael Bird, who faced burglary charges, used the torn waist-band of his jeans to hang himself from the bars of his cell window. Southwark coroner's court was told. The jury returned a verdict of suicide.

After recent criticism by the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane, of the shortage of facilities for mentally ill offenders, the Department of Health revealed that there are still only 120 places for them in secure units of psychiatric hospitals. Ten years ago the department decided that 10,000 such beds were needed.

A spokesman for the Prison Department said there were some 200 people in the hospital complex at Brixton. "These people have been identified as abnormal — some of them grossly mentally abnormal, whether due to mental illness, drug or alcohol abuse or a distortion of personality," he said. Staff were well aware of the higher suicide risks in such cases, and all new prisoners were examined.

A bombshell dropped over the drinks

By Martin Wainwright

A British scientist startled drinkers in an Australian outback saloon in the 1950s by turning up with a Geiger counter in search of fallout from atom bomb tests which had just taken place nearby.

Mr James Hole, a safety specialist from Aldermaston, donned his earphones in the only bar in the settlement of Omslow on the Australian coast, north of Perth. He

found no evidence of abnormal radiation.

"One or two people thought I had some sort of peculiar radio," he told the Australian Royal Commission of Inquiry into British nuclear tests in Australia which is taking evidence in London.

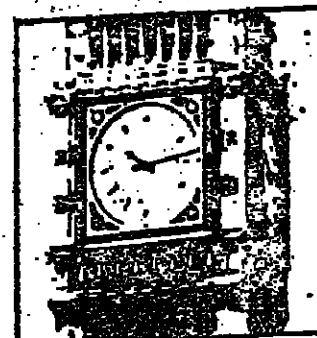
The inquiry is examining two explosions on the Montebello Islands suspected of spreading fallout over part of North-west Australia in 1953.

Mr Hole was asked by Mr Peter McClellan, counsel assisting the commission, if he had not heard of local claims that "atomic rain" had fallen on the settlement of Marble Bar when the cloud from one of the bombs drifted south.

Mr Hole said that the staff were "very cloistered" and did not hear about fears on the mainland.

Mr Hole, who received one of the highest levels of radiation on the operation when he took samples from the second bomb's crater, told the commission that warning notices had been posted on the islands when the task force left. Trippers and fishermen were warned off with the words "radioactive, keep out" in English, Malay, Chinese, Japanese and Greek.

A certain amount of debris had been left behind after the tests, he said, mostly tins and rubbish from the camp.



David McKie

Cruising out of stagnant waters

WHEN people say, as they sometimes do, that Sir Geoffrey Howe is boring and soporific they tend to assume he can't help being that way. There is, however, an alternative explanation. Maybe Sir Geoffrey is boring and soporific because he believes it is good for us.

"Thus when George Robertson (Lab. Hamilton) asked him a mildly apologetic question about Europe the other day Sir Geoffrey responded with a matching paragon of his own. He simply advised Mr Robertson to 'try to avoid the somewhat histrionic attempt at dramatisation which characterised his intervention' — this afternoon."

The clue lies in his despatch to manner, which belongs nowadays more to the bedside than the Bar. More and more he resembles a trusted GP of the school of Dr Cameron in Dr Finlay's Casebook long ago, muttering incomprehensibly but oh so soothingly.

So when he was asked in the Commons yesterday why Gibraltar's Socialist leader should have got so excited over Britain's talks with Spain Sir Geoffrey seemed more concerned about Mr Paine than critical of him. "There are circumstances," he said but philosophically observed, "in which opposition parties don't always take the view of the government of the day."

And yet, with Sir Geoffrey, opposition parties often do. Mr Healey assumed him a fortnight ago for his Hong Kong deal: yesterday he saluted him again for his handling of Gibraltar. But on Gibraltar, as on Hong Kong, more mischievous and so "perhaps closer to his heart to draw the parallel which Sir Geoffrey most fears — with the Falklands."

"The situation of Hong Kong," he pre-emptively declared in the earlier debate is 'sui generis' — which being closer to the original Mandarin (Foreign Service not Chinese) means:

Parliament, page 9

"If you think you're going to get a lot of embarrassing mileage on the Falklands out of this you've got another thing coming, ladie."

In yesterday's debate, the part played by our old friend the Treaty of Utrecht, still happily with us and not looking a day over 272; though Spain's present Nato and future EEC links came into it too.

The one real grumble was from Tories who, perhaps, by the extraordinary warmth of Sir Geoffrey's tribute to Sir Joshua Hassan — who thought they scented another Foreign Office sell-out. Forget it. Sir Geoffrey's Foreign Minister was saying that a deal which gave the Gibraltar against the wishes of the people of the Rock would do no service to Spain.

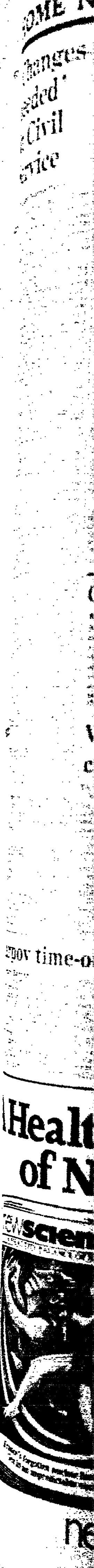
Just as well that Sir Geoffrey was not there to witness the scenes that followed Michael Heseltine's statement on the Molesworth case. The excitement level would have caused him profound professional distress.

The Tories, like Mr Heseltine, tend to miss pride in a law and order exercise expertly done. Labour — "the shadow of Nazi Germany" (Allan Rogers): "The march of the jackboots" (Jeremy Corbyn): the building of a Berlin Wall and the use of the full state apparatus to obliterate opposition to government policies (Tony Benn).

An Eastern European approach to Winston Churchill, Mr Heseltine snarled, "what would happen to people who tried to occupy bases in Eastern Europe in the same way?"

Michael Bates (Cons. Hampshire East) but still the bluff soldier at heart) called it a "mock furor on the loony left." Up roar. If "fascist" was banned in the House, was "loony left" permissible? "It might," the Speaker hoped, suggested, "be said to be a term of endearment."

Some Labour MPs thought that was like saying: "Any thing goes." "Fascists, Fascists," chanted Sunderland's Bob Clay. "Call Heseltine a Nazi," someone else encouraged. The Speaker tried to raise the temperature. "loony left" not very unparliamentary... let's avoid it for the afternoon... Mr Tam Dalyell? Still more excitement, I'm afraid.



HOME NEWS

'Changes needed' in Civil Service

By Richard Norton-Taylor

Dr William Plowden, director of the Royal Institute of Public Administration, said last night that invoking the Official Secrets Act in response to leaks was only likely to make a bad situation in the Civil Service worse.

In the course of an attack on the way the Government was handling problems facing the Civil Service, he said: "An intolerable strain can be placed on conscientious officials compelled to implement policies with which they personally disagree. Whatever the theoretical right of civil servants to ask to be moved if they find themselves in this unhappy situation, the actual conventions are pretty clear: you get on with the job."

What was needed was a system and a change of attitudes which would make it relatively normal for individual officials to be moved at their own request, or at their minister's out of sensitive jobs without loss of face.

In a speech to the Royal Society of Arts Dr Plowden said there was a leadership vacuum in the Civil Service, compounded by the fact that the head of the Civil Service, Sir Robert Armstrong, was also secretary to the Cabinet.

Recent events — notably Mrs Thatcher's personal influence on senior Whitehall appointments — were a portent of a long-term trend towards greater political control of the Civil Service. That was necessary and desirable.

"I do not believe that thoughtful individuals, with their own established practices and values, can in fact support with equal enthusiasm government policies which totally dissimilate ideologies or that they can prevent the relative intensity of enthusiasms from influencing their behaviour," said Dr Plowden.

The claim that a neutral Civil Service was the best guarantee of an Englishman's liberty seemed a wholly undesirable argument for the status quo. "The myth of the totally dispassionate, totally effective administrator should now be consigned to the dustbin of history with other comforting but outmoded myths — such as the incorruptibility of the police, the self-governability of financial institutions, or the unique tolerance of the British."

Dr Plowden suggested that Civil Service appointments should be openly advertised and limited to renewable five-year contracts. He also attacked the "one-eyed accountant's" view of management. The Government was neither motivating the Civil Service nor accepting the consequences of its drive for efficiency. "It is quite apparent that the pursuit of man-power cuts as an end in themselves can be quite at odds with the pursuit of efficiency or effectiveness."



SISTER PISTA (left) of the Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary is in the business of spreading the Word of God by video. For the next three days she will be entreating visitors to the Christian Resources Exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Halls in Westminster, London to the message that the churches must learn to love the electronic age.

She and some 20 fellow-Lutheran sisters and a Franciscan friar formed Mother Beales Film, which produces a range of films and videos to the glory of God. "Some 43 million households watched our Christmas Special on American television," she said yesterday. Up to 10,000 visitors are expected at

the exhibition, where Sister Pista ("the Greek word for faith") is one of 200 exhibitors offering their wares to the modern churchman. Under one roof today's cleric can buy everything from his visual display unit, paperback library (preferably on a mobile rack), stainless steel altar cross to a Holy Land travel package.

But it is not all new technology. Souls eager for self-improvement can see a Victorian vicar's lantern slides showing a drunkard brought to penitential dehydration.

The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England yesterday posed "some leading questions" on long-term

capital ("Is its income growing?") on its stand opposite a famine relief agency selling Third World tea-bags.

In the age of the video prophet and the tape-recorded exhorter the African Pastor Fund is celebrating the provision of 300 bicycles to African priests in the last decade and Stamps for Evangelism a record £5,837 raised for missions in 1984, "for which we give thanks to the Lord."

Mission Supplies Limited offers everything from a canoe to a mosquito net for Christians overseas, while at home, "if your church has a baptistry, do not forget us when you require a new heater element."

Report by Martyn Halsey
Picture by Gary Weaver

Defence chief sees peril in cuts

By David Fairhall, Defence Correspondent

Reduced spending on defence could mean the elimination of a complete military capability or programme, Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the Defence Staff, told the Commons Defence Committee yesterday.

Financial economies were better made by removing "safari slices" from all the programmes, or allowing them to slip back in time. But there might come a time when slip-back could no longer absorb the pressure of the defence budget, and an important programme would have to be cut out.

As an example, the field marshal mentioned the Royal Navy's amphibious warfare capability, currently under discussion in the annual review of the Ministry of Defence's 10-year costing, which he said was a valuable asset.

But replacing the elderly assault ships Fearless and Intrepid would be expensive, and the ministry was bound to consider whether the job could be done in some other way.

Sir Edwin endorsed an earlier Ministry calculation that if on paper its budget showed no real growth beyond next year, after allowing for inflation, the effect could be a reduction of 4 per cent.



Sir Edwin Bramall—backing Trident

Union calls ballot result a blow against new legislation

Construction workers vote for strike action

By Peter Hetherington, Northern Labour Correspondent

Workers at one of Britain's most successful oil platform construction yards have voted overwhelmingly under the Government's new Employment Act for strike action after rejecting a two-stage pay offer.

The decision by the 1,500 men at the McDermott Scotland yard at Ardersier, Inverness, was hailed by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers as another blow against the contentious legislation. This lays down that a pre-strike ballot must be held if a union is to retain immunity and avoid a claim for damages.

In the poll 1,329 workers voted for a strike and only 204 opposed the action. They were asked on the ballot paper: "Are you prepared to take part in a strike involving a breach of your contract of employment?" The AUEW borrowed ballot boxes from Inverness district council and the votes were counted in the union's district offices under the supervision of the provost of Inverness, Mr Allan Sellar, a Liberal.

The company, part of the Louisiana-based, multi-national J. Ray McDermott, had offered a 7.8 per cent this year and 5 per cent in 1986. But union negotiators are understood to have been pressing for around 8 per cent in each year.

In 1983, the workers accepted a two-year pay deal involving a wage freeze for six months, with a 7 per cent pay increase for the following 18 months. But the company now has a full order book — it is due to deliver two platform jackets involving the main steel structure for an offshore installation, and a platform deck this year, while in 1986 it will be building an 18,000-tonne, 390-ft structure for Marathon Oil's Brae Field.

In a statement last night the company said it was disappointed by the ballot result. To the best of its knowledge, the offer represented one of the most generous settlements in the UK. "We have provided excellent job security over the past years and have been successful in maintaining a good order book."

The union will now enter immediate negotiations with the company in an attempt to avoid a stoppage. However, Mr James Airlie, who represents Scotland on the AUEW national executive, said that yesterday's vote marked an effective blow to the Government's strategy on industrial relations.

Mr Airlie said that he feared the act could lead to a "rash of ballotitis" and provoke more rather than fewer strikes. The new legislation could formalise a strike too quickly.

Vetting for nine juries

By Malcolm Dean

Juries have been vetted before nine trials since 1980. Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, said yesterday.

Ten jurors were named in reports forwarded to the Attorney-General. The Crown challenged three of them and the defence one. Five of the cases did not involve national security but the defendants in

these faced terrorist charges. There have been acquittals in only one of the five concluded trials where juries were vetted.

Sir Michael said that membership of a political party, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament or the National Council for Civil Liberties were not sufficient grounds for challenging a potential juror.

Garage workmanship poor, complain car owners

By Rosemary Collins

A SURVEY of 17,000 garage customers carried out by the Consumers' Association has shown a very poor standard of workmanship and a hard core of serious problems, with one in 10 customers dissatisfied with the service they get.

A quarter of all disputes involved unexpectedly large bills, and one customer in 10 claimed that a garage had caused damage to his car. According to the latest issue of Which? magazine, customer satisfaction with a garage can depend upon the make of car concerned. The Consumers' Association points out that the model's

own reliability may have a lot to do with this. Owners of some Austin-Rover cars, the Metro, Maestro and Rover, and of some recent Fords, such as the Sierra and the new Escort, were more likely than others to be dissatisfied with their garage's performance. But the 1984 Which? car buying guide showed that these cars

also had worse than average reliability. People with fewest disputes over car servicing tended to own older rather than newer cars, in particular the Ford Fiesta, the old Escort, the Austin Allegro, the Honda Accord, Nissan Bluebird, Toyota Corolla, Triumph Acclaim, Vauxhall Astra, and the old Cavalier.

Video piracy 'nearly put cinemas out of business'

By a Correspondent

Video pirates nearly broke the British cinema industry, such piracy only affects large causing closures, redundancies and losses of £70 million a year, an Old Bailey judge said yesterday.

Sentencing four men for video piracy, Judge Christopher Hilliard said that in 1983 almost every major film on show in Britain was illegally copied and the pirates made profits of £100 million a year. But police smashed two major pirate syndicates and "the flood has been staunch and hopefully the industry has been saved."

The judge continued: "un-thinking people might consider that piracy only affects large rich film companies well able to take care of themselves by suing for breach of copyright."

"But the evidence in this case has shown that up and down the country lots of ordinary men and women in ordinary jobs were made redundant, cinemas closed and wages were reduced and there was a knock-on effect in associated industries."

The judge sentenced the four defendants for a £500,000 conspiracy to steal films and defraud in March, 1983. is continuing over the status of the match. Both contestants objected to the switch from the Hall of Columns, but agreed to play in the Hotel Sport on a temporary basis. Some in the Soviet establishment view chess as a demonstration of the USSR's intellectual prestige, but a rival group claims that chess gets too large a share of the sports budget.

Karpov time-out delays game

By Leonard Barden

Anatoly Karpov requested another time-out at the world chess championship in Moscow yesterday. His 48th game against the challenger, Garry Kasparov, was once more postponed and is now scheduled for tomorrow.

The game, in which Kasparov has the advantage of the white pieces, follows his victory in game 47, which

reduced his overall deficit to 2-5. It was originally planned for February 1, but chess officials then announced two technical time-outs.

These were connected with a transfer of play from the Hall of Columns in central Moscow to the Hotel Sport on the city outskirts.

Karpov's surprise announcement after a week's rest could indicate that a power struggle

A Healthy Balance of Neuroses



People who score high in neuroticism may be more prone to heart disease. But low scorers seem more susceptible to cancer. This week New Scientist asks if there is an optimum level of neurosis? PLUS: How turtles choose the sex of their young, France's forgotten nuclear heritage, and the pick of the best jobs.

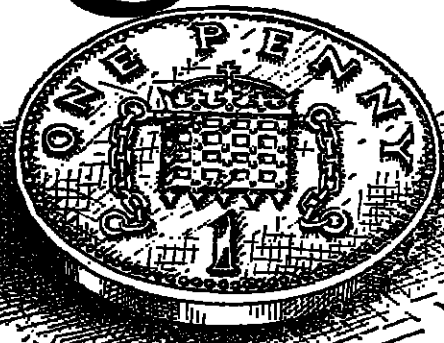
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People who care



Dublin judges free Australian in legal tussle over extradition

From Joe Joyce in Dublin

Mr Robert Trimble, one of Australia's most wanted men, was released from prison in Dublin yesterday after the Irish Supreme Court decided that it did not have power to keep him in custody.

Mr Trimble, aged 53, has been awaiting extradition to Australia to stand trial for his alleged involvement in two murders and smuggling heroin. But his legal battle in Dublin against his return is not over.

He was driven by his solicitor to an unknown destination from Mountjoy Prison in Dublin shortly after the court decision.

Armed detectives stood by as he left the prison; he had been under heavy guard before.

Peter Trimble — battle continues

cause of reported threats to his life from former underworld associates.

Mr Trimble told the court that he was suffering from an incurable cancer. He is understood to have received regular medical treatment during his detention.

He won another round of his protracted legal battle against extradition on Tuesday when the Irish High Court decided that his original arrest last October had been a gross violation of his rights.

Drugs squad detectives had used anti-terrorism legislation which allows police to detain suspects for up to 48 hours without charge.

The High Court ruled that the use of this law was a device to hold Trimble while the Irish and Australian governments arranged an extradition agreement between the two countries. The court ordered his release, but the Irish authorities obtained Supreme Court agreement for a 24-hour delay.

The Supreme Court's five judges yesterday unanimously accepted the case put by Trimble's lawyers that they did not have power to keep him in custody because he had been granted an order of habeas corpus. The authorities are appealing against the High Court decision.

The chief justice, Mr Thomas Finlay, said that the Supreme Court could only order Mr Trimble's re-arrest if it decided that the High Court ruling was wrong.

Malcolm Pithers and Paul Hoyland report on the dilemmas confronting two coalfields

'Go back as one' plea in Yorkshire

MINERS in the Yorkshire coalfield were accepting yesterday that the strike is nearly over. What they will never accept and do not believe will happen, is being "sold out" by Mr Arthur Scargill or the NUM leadership. They realise the importance of today's NUM executive meeting in Sheffield and are desperately hoping for some positive moves.

The feeling seems to be that if men have to go back without any possibility of a victory the leadership should call off the strike and instruct miners to return next week.

Miners reasoned yesterday that if this happened neither the NCB nor the Government could claim a tactical victory.

It would also mean that talks would still have to be held about the future of individual pits. One miner said: "I think if we are to go back then that is the way. We should go back as we came out, as one. Then we have signed no agreements."

The NCB said yesterday that 6,400 NUM members were working in Yorkshire, an increase of 100 on the previous day's figure, making a total of 890 new faces this week.

But the young miners outside Allerton Bywater Colliery, near Castleford, were far from despondent. One who has been outside the colliery practically every day since the dispute began said that all miners backed the

NUM leadership's view that they should not sign any agreement with the NCB on the question of uneconomic pits.

"It's like agreeing to the electric chair before a trial," he said. "We want no part of such an agreement with the Coal Board. All these pits around here would disappear overnight."

The group at Allerton were uniformly against any drift back to work. One man said: "I cannot understand why the board or the Government should think that by people drifting back to work or being made to crawl that this is going to solve anything in the long term."

Another young miner said he had told all his colleagues

on the picket lines that he would stay on strike until the receiver came to take his house, which is mortgaged.

"I've put up with everything but I will not lose my house," he said. "That's how far I am prepared to go. When they come for the house I'll go back."

Most of the men had not taken an active part in union affairs. They said they had no alternative but to fight against pit closures.

They complained that police had not allowed them to light a brazier, or put up any shelter throughout the winter.

Yesterday just over 100 men out of 1,250 went into work at the pit although the pickets said that figure

would include many clerical workers and was hardly representative of the workforce.

At the Prince of Wales pit, Pontefract, miners were cooking breakfast on their braziers. They have a shelter, but say they do not expect to be occupying it much longer.

One man with over 30 years' service in the industry said: "Something has to be done quickly. If not there will be a massive return, but that will be a bad thing."

Another said: "We feel we have been compared with the Falklands. They don't mind how many fall as long as they can say they have won. What is that going to solve in the end?"

Wales 'will follow Scargill'

The miners' union in South Wales was re-emphasising its support for the strike last night after a day of confusion when remarks by its research officer, Dr Kim Howells, indicated support for a return to work without a settlement.

A spokesman at the National Union of Mineworkers' area headquarters in Pontypridd, mid-Glamorgan, said: "South Wales will not act on its own. We came out under the national leadership and we will go back under the national leadership."

"We are still solidly behind the strike. There are only 13 pits in the country without any scabs and they are all in South Wales. It does prove we are very strong."

The union claimed that Dr Howells' comments had been misinterpreted as meaning that South Wales was poised to break the strike unilaterally.

He said in an interview on BBC radio that the union was considering the option of returning to work without agreeing to pits closing on economic grounds and fighting the board pit by pit.

"The possibility which is now being discussed everywhere is one of saying we are not signing any bit of paper which gives anyone the right to close pits for economic reasons or for whatever reason they care to dream up, and that we will take the boys back and fight it on a pit-by-pit basis, regardless of whatever consequences follow," he said.

"It might not necessarily be the South Wales point of view overall but it is certainly one which has been discussed."

It is other militant areas supported the option at the union's national executive meeting today and it was endorsed by an area delegates' conference. South Wales could lead the striking miners back to work within days.

However, continued pressure for a negotiated settlement would almost certainly keep the South Wales leaders in line, at least for the time being, to avoid splitting the strikers' ranks. Dr Howells said that South Wales would not be a catalyst for taking men back to work in opposition to national decisions.

Mr Emyln Williams, the South Wales miners' president, has repeatedly said that he will not allow his members to be isolated from the rest of the British coalfield. As recently as Tuesday he was quoted as saying: "There is one clear decision that we are standing by, and that is that South Wales only returns to work when there is a proper negotiated settlement."

That day's South Wales executive meeting had mandated its representatives to press for a reconvened TUC conference, but Dr Howells' remarks reflect the more private thoughts of the area's leaders, who recognised the intense pressure from lodges for an end to the strike.

Only 380 miners out of 19,600 were reported to be at work in South Wales yesterday, one more than on Tuesday. The union put the figure at 304.

Dr Howells said the union must be preserved. "You ally that with the real alternative of fighting with different tactics, with perhaps a guerrilla fight on a pit-by-pit basis, and you have got the ingredients for a very radical change of policy over the next few days."

A formula by Welsh church leaders to provide a basis for a negotiated settlement will be put to the national executive by the South Wales NUM today.

Ulster poll shows split over legal system

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

The Protestant and Roman Catholic communities in Northern Ireland are divided over whether the province's legal system is fair, according to an opinion poll published yesterday.

The survey shows that 89 per cent of Protestants believe the system is very fair or fair compared with 56 per cent of Catholics.

On the issue of plastic bullets, 86 per cent of Protestants approve of their use while 87 per cent of Catholics disapprove. The survey showed 74 per cent of Protestants in favour of hanging convicted terrorists with 71 per cent of Catholics against.

The poll, commissioned by the Belfast Telegraph evening newspaper and carried out by the Northern Ireland Consumer Panel, is based on 955 questionnaires filled in from 1,200 sent out on January 7.

A similar sectarian split comes over the right of the security forces on either side of the border to enter each others' territory in pursuit of suspects. While 78 per cent of Protestants said the police should have the right to cross the border, 56 per cent of Catholics were against.

But 47 per cent of Catholics agreed with the 96 per cent of Protestants who said that the RUC was fair in the way it discharged its duties.

There were suggestions in Northern Ireland last night the figure reflects a higher regard for the RUC among the minority community than is often thought to exist.

On the issue of informers, or uncorroborated evidence in terrorist trials, four out of five Catholics did not think such evidence should be allowed. Thirty-five per cent of Protestants said it should be admissible with 46 per cent disagreeing.

The Northern Ireland Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, yesterday repeated his hope that the figure reflects a higher regard for the RUC among the minority community than is often thought to exist.

Asked about the recent spate of terrorist activity in the province, he said it was only to be expected that the IRA and the Irish National Liberation Army would become active again after a relative pause in recent months.

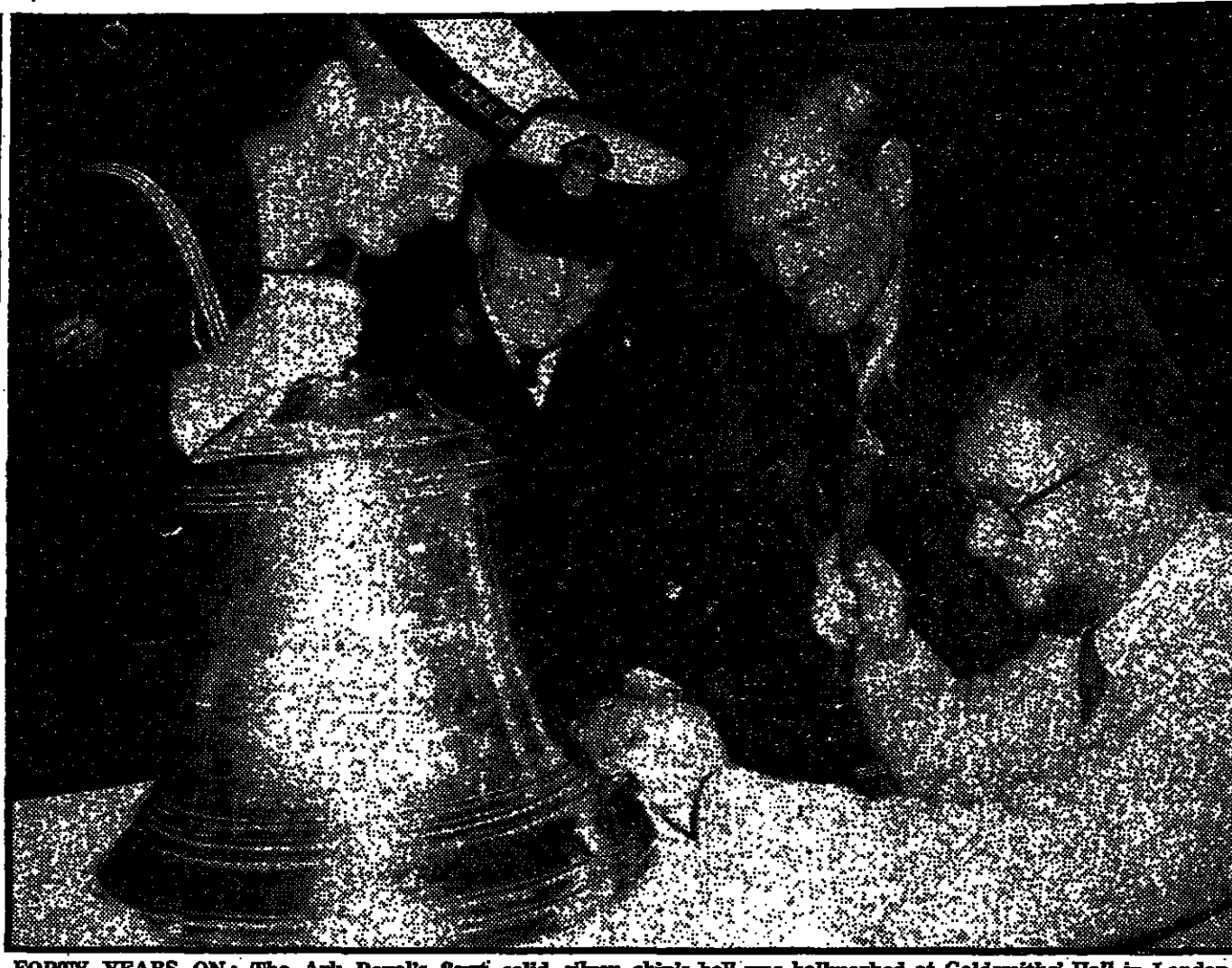
SDP in nomination scrap

By a Correspondent

The Social Democratic Party's Welsh president is being challenged for the right to fight Clwyd South-west in the next parliamentary election.

Mr Thomas Ellis, who was elected Labour MP for Wrexham in 1970 and became one of the founders of the SDP, was within 1,551 votes of capturing the seat at the 1983 general election.

It was forecast that he



FORTY YEARS ON: The Ark Royal's 2nd solid silver ship's bell was hallmarked at Goldsmiths' Hall in London yesterday—more than 40 years after it was originally cast. Watching assay marker Jeffrey Ryder at work are (from left) Radio Operator Nick Durran and Chief Petty Officer Dave Taverner, both serving on Ark Royal, and Goldsmiths' Prime Warden, Mr A. G. Grimwade.

GMBU poll in summer

By Keith Harper, Labour Correspondent

The election for Mr David Bannett's successor as leader of the General, Municipal and Boilermakers' Union will be held during the summer, probably after the union's annual conference at Blackpool.

Mr Bannett yesterday confirmed his early retirement, and said that he did not intend to remain in tandem with his successor as leader of Britain's third largest union for more than a few months.

Mr Bannett denied that he was disillusioned. "I could have stayed on until I was 65, but just about everyone else goes here at 60, so I thought I'd go now." It had been a great privilege being the union's general secretary.

Libyan student went in fear

By Tom Sharritt

A Libyan student told a court yesterday that he went into hiding after two explosions in Manchester last March.

They are also accused, with Abdi as Salam Shunay, aged 19, of Egmont Street, Chorlton, Manchester, of conspiracy to cause an explosion or explosions. The four deny all charges.

Mr Arabi said he thought Mansour worked for the Libyan embassy and did not tell him where he lived because he was afraid. Mansour had offered to lend him £500 and asked for his passport, but Mr Arabi did not hand it over because he did not trust him.

Mansour also asked about his address and his politics but he refused to tell him.

Another Libyan student, Fadel Youssef Hishad, who responded to more than 30 questions on Tuesday by saying that he could not answer them gave the same response to 90 more questions yesterday.

Mr Hishad said the Libyan People's Bureau in London paid for his studies. He declined to say whether he had discussed politics with Mr Mansour and another Libyan, Khalid Tantouch, who is also alleged to have taken part in the conspiracy but who left Britain before the explosion.

The trial continues today.

Unions fight to save homeless centres

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Civil Service unions are demanding an emergency meeting with Mr Tony Newton, the Social Security Minister, who has decided to close all 23 resettlement centres for the homeless.

The three unions allege that Mr Newton committed a breach of faith by announcing the decision without producing a promised consultation paper on the centres' future.

They are also unhappy that he is ending the Department of Health's rehabilitation pro-

gramme for the unemployed when the Manpower Services Commission has announced plans to close 29 Skillcentres used by some of the same people.

The plans to close the centres were disclosed in a written parliamentary answer to Mr Spencer Batiste, Conservative MP for Elmet.

The centres cost £15 million a year to run and can house 2,000 people. Mr Newton wants charities to take over their role and is prepared to consider bids from private companies to take on the job.

The first eight centres to close are in Brighton, Derby, Glasgow, Liverpool, Plawsworth, Co Durham, Manchester, Winterbourne, near Bristol and Stormy Down, near Bridgend, South Wales.

Another seven centres in London face closure once the Camberwell reception centre shuts this year. The remaining eight will close later.

Mr Newton wants the MSC to take responsibility for training the former residents without any extra resources. Some of the money saved by the Health Department would be given to charities which wanted to expand.

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AUSTIN
MONTGO
From Austin Rover

Wellington faces retaliation for its anti-nuclear stance

Washington threatens to cut trade aid to NZ

From Alex Brummer in Washington

The Reagan Administration yesterday threatened to sever security cooperation with the New Zealand Government and end the trade preferences it has enjoyed on American markets as a full member of the Anzus alliance.

In contrast, the Administration appeared willing to play down the decision by the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, to reject cooperation in MX-missile testing and is preparing to strengthen its relationship with Sydney within the Anzus framework through joint exercises which will exclude New Zealand. After the Secretary of State, Mr Shultz, met Mr Hawke in Washington, US officials talked of making alternative arrangements for the MX trials.

A senior administration official said "there was no comparison" between Australia's decision to reject cooperation on the MX and New Zealand's exclusion of the US destroyer USS Buchanan from its ports. It described part visits by American ships 12,000 miles from home as a "core" function within Anzus, and stated that New Zealand was the only country within the Western alliance which was denying access to US vessels. We are "not out to punish New Zealand," an official said, adding in the next breath that special consideration was "not available."

The US, fearful of the chain reaction which New Zealand's anti-nuclear stance might provoke, appears ready to bludgeon the country into submission. While a senior official refused to make any official statement, he left little doubt that in the future, New Zealand would get very different trade treatment.

Among the specific actions expected to be taken are an end to the preferential treatment in the export of lamb, wool and casein (a milk protein) to the American market, and the release of US butter stocks which could damage New Zealand competitiveness.

On the military front, the US is ready to take further steps beyond the cancellation of the Sea Eagle exercises. In addition to excluding New Zealand from future exercises, it is considering a cut-off of the intelligence and other information which is part of the normal fare of a strategic alliance.

The United States, Australia, and New Zealand are joint signatories to the 1951 Anzus alliance which is designed to protect the South Pacific. While it has no central command like Nato, there are regular consultations at political and military levels. The US believes it was misled by the Labour Government of Mr Lange over the reception which would be accorded to the USS Buchanan. The US, like Britain, refuses to disclose whether its naval vessels are carrying nuclear weapons.

A senior American official noted last night that, despite the strong anti-nuclear movements in Japan, there had been no objection when a US nuclear-powered carrier — almost certainly carrying nuclear weapons — had docked in Japan. It added that such facilities were part of a mutual security treaty.

In his first session with Mr Shultz, the Australian Prime Minister discussed his decision to bow to anti-nuclear forces within the Western alliance which was denying access to US vessels. We are "not out to punish New Zealand," an official said, adding in the next breath that special consideration was "not available."

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Lange 'will not bow to pressure'

From Ian Templeton in Wellington

THE Prime Minister, Mr Lange, yesterday spoke out strongly against US pressure to modify New Zealand's anti-nuclear stance.

He said his country would not be "intimidated" into accepting nuclear weapons. Mr Lange was responding to reports quoting the US Defence Secretary, Mr Weinberger, as saying that New Zealand would pay dearly for its refusal to accept visits by American warships which could be nuclear capable, despite its adherence to the Anzus Treaty. Reports from Washington also quoted a State Department spokesman as saying that the American response to New Zealand would signal to other countries in alliance with the United States that actions of the kind taken by New Zealand would not be "cost-free."

Mr Lange said that the people of New Zealand had made their decision to oppose the presence of nuclear weapons in a democratic way when they voted for the Labour Party's policy at the last election, and it was not for the United States, any more than for the Soviet Union, to say that they would not accept that democratic decision.

Mr Lange added that he believed people in the United States who cherished democracy would be as resentful as New Zealanders were at being subject to "that kind of threat."

Washington is adamant that participation in Anzus involves the acceptance of visits by warships which may or may not be carrying nuclear weapons.

While the New Zealand Government is disappointed with the cancellation of the Sea Eagle exercise, it is confident that it enjoys wide public support for its refusal to bend its anti-nuclear policy.

Though Mr Lange and his colleagues are aware that the Americans could retaliate in a number of ways, they are confident that the Reagan Administration would be reluctant to end the Anzus alliance.

While political circles in Wellington there is still no definitive answer to why the Prime Minister should have accepted that he himself had admitted to be a "narrow issue" of American warship visits into a crisis for the Anzus alliance.



The Australian Prime Minister, Mr Hawke (right) with the US Secretary of State, Mr Shultz in discussions in Washington yesterday

Nicaragua pins peace hopes on negotiated settlement with US

By Michael Simmons

The Nicaraguan Vice-President, Dr Sergio Ramirez, on the second leg of a West European tour, said in London yesterday that his Government believed "now, more than ever" that a negotiated settlement with the US was the only way to end the fighting in Nicaragua.

Although Britain has yet to give the bandits any direct financial or technical aid, the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, has apparently emphasised British support for the concerted peace approach, by the Contadora Group.

Dr Ramirez told a press conference yesterday: "At the end of the day we believe that a negotiated solution through the Contadora Group will be imposed."

But he added that, whether or not the US Congress finally agreed to renew funding for the rebels in northern Nicaragua, "we expect a revival of terrorist activities."

Dr Ramirez categorically denied that Nicaragua had any military treaty—public or private—with the Soviet Union and said that there were no foreign troops on Nicaraguan soil. The country's air force, he said, consisted of two old training aircraft which, if they flew at all, did so "on a wing and a prayer."

The Nicaraguan leader yesterday had talks with Sir Geoffrey and Mrs Thatcher tomorrow.

He said that the Spanish Prime Minister, Mr Gonzalez, told him on Tuesday that he shared Nicaragua's desire for a negotiated settlement.

Dr Ramirez, who is also facing opposition and church leaders in Britain, goes on this weekend to the Irish Republic, France, Italy and possibly West Germany.

Show of force as finance ministers meet

From Jonathan Steele in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Heavily armed troops patrolled the streets of Santo Domingo yesterday as finance ministers gathered to discuss Latin America's debt problems.

The cathedral was ringed by police watching for gathering crowds. Earlier, police had searched homes and detained several suspected of having organised the series of shopkeeper's strikes which have closed parts of the city in one-day protests.

As finance and foreign ministers from the continent's 11 largest debtor countries assembled here for their third meeting in less than a year, the tension in the street was a reminder of the costs of the crisis.

Two weeks ago, the Government here brought protests by raising food and fuel prices as part of a package of austerity measures demanded by the International Monetary Fund in return for releasing new funds.

Similar austerity measures last April provoked riots in which the Government admitted the army killed 56 people, although human rights groups put the death toll at twice that number. This year's huge police and army presence appears to be designed to scare people from demonstrating in the streets.

On Tuesday morning army units surrounded the home of a former president, Mr Juan Bosch, for several hours and took the names of all visitors. Mr Bosch, the head of the Dominican Liberation Party, angered the Government last week by calling for President Salvador Jorge Blanco's resignation.

Today, Mr Jorge Blanco will open the two-day meeting of Latin American debtors, known as the Cartagena Group.

Between them they owe \$330 billion of Latin America's \$550 billion debt. They include the world's biggest debtors, Brazil, Argentina, and Mexico.

At their last meeting the group called for a "direct political dialogue" with the United States and the other six major industrial countries as the only way to find a fair and lasting solution to the debt problem. Although they are still short of forming a debtors' club or cartel, they reject the notion that the debt issue can be left to the commercial banks and technicians at the IMF and the World Bank.

The West has so far responded with the offer of a special one-day session on Debt when the Interim Committee of the IMF and the Development Committee of the World Bank have their next meeting in Washington in April. Today's conference will have to decide what demands to put to the April meeting and whether to continue insisting on a direct face to face encounter with their creditors at a more overtly political level.

Conference sources here recognise that since the Cartagena Group began in June, one of their most important members, Argentina, has made its own deal with its creditors. There has also been a slight fall in interest rates. A question mark hangs over Brazil which is expected to have a civilian government. Mr Tancred Neves, the president-elect, visited Washington last week.

All these factors may lead to a less tough attitude at this week's meeting, but in the highly charged atmosphere of Santo Domingo with its protests against price rises, no one can be sure.

An analysis of the debt situation since the last meeting, which will be put to the ministers today, says that there has been no fundamental change in the debt crisis.

Castro cooperation offer

Washington: President Castro has offered to cooperate with US-led efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement to the southern African conflict, the Washington Post reported yesterday.

In the latest in a series of articles based on an interview last week with President Castro, the Post quoted him as saying that the US mediation could "exercise a positive influence in the international sphere."

He suggested that Cuban troops might be withdrawn from Angola if South Africa removed its forces from Namibia.

Giving the first full Cuban reaction to a series of diplomatic developments in southern Africa, he hinted at a substantial reduction of Cuban troops, but said they would remain in Angola if peace efforts failed.

On the Namibia negotiations, President Castro said: "If an agreement is reached, we will comply rigorously to the part which involves us."—Reuters.

Marchais says left alliance a mistake

From Campbell Page in Paris

The French Communist leader, Mr Georges Marchais, opened his party's 25th congress yesterday with a ringing denunciation of the record of the Socialist Government.

Mr Marchais, blamed by reformers for leading his party into decline, said that most of the Communists' difficulties stemmed from 25 years of mistaken efforts to forge an alliance with the Socialists.

He accused President Mitterrand and the Socialists of turning Communist support against the Communists themselves.

The Socialists, he said, had criticised French institutions in order to make better use of them. Once they gained power, they reinforced their anti-democratic character.

He echoed every aspiration for the transformation of society to curb justified struggles, to lead the will for change into an electoral impasse and to carry out their present harsh policy.

"They posed as guarantors of the Union of the Left in order to divide and demobilise a movement based on mass support and to reduce the influence of the French Communist Party."

Speaking against a background of the party's electoral decline and internal criticism, Mr Marchais, who has led the party since 1972, pinned his hopes on building a majority through massing popular forces.

Although he accused the Socialists of developing a social democratic policy and of working with capitalism, and although the Communists withdrew their ministers from the Socialist-led government last July, the Communist leader left a hypothetical door open for rejoining the Union of the Left.

"How do we envisage coming to power? By our party on its own winning or electoral majority? That is not what the central committee's motion, that we remain ready to reach agreements between political parties, particularly with the Socialist Party, when such agreements prove to be possible."

In that spirit, the party reaffirmed that it remained firmly in favour of the Union of the Left.

He traced the party's decline to its failure to distance itself from the Soviet model, admitting that it had been slow to draw the necessary conclusions from Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin in 1956. "We restricted our criticism to the cult of personality. It was only in 1975 that we defined Stalinism as we still do today: a collection of ideas and practices wholly foreign to our ideals and our policies."

Mr Georges Marchais: attack on President Mitterrand

Brussels: The Atlantic Alliance, responding to a wave of attacks on Nato targets in Western Europe, yesterday voiced renewed determination to fight terrorism.

After Nato's council of ambassadors here heard a report on security, a spokesman said: "We are determined to prevent and suppress terrorism which seeks to undermine stability and destroy democratic institutions."

The council was keeping the situation under review. Officials said that Nato's own security office reported on a series of precautionary

Mengelle's starvation experiment

JERUSALEM: A survivor of Auschwitz described yesterday how Dr Mengele deprived her newborn baby of food for six days to see how long it would survive.

Testifying at the final session of a three-day congress called to demand Mengele's capture and trial, Ruth Elias told how she killed her child with morphine to put an end to its sufferings.

"Mengele came to visit every day while the baby got thinner and thinner, weaker and weaker," she said. "I murdered my own child. The next day, Mengele came. He couldn't find the corpse among the heap of bodies there, and cursed me for cheating him."

Mengele, now 73 and believed to be living in Paraguay, is wanted by West Germany for crimes at Auschwitz.

A six-man panel said in a final statement that the fact that he was still at liberty was an affront to the free world. It said there was ample evidence to convict Mengele of war crimes and crimes against humanity, and appealed to governments, religious leaders, and international organisations to work for his capture and trial.

The panel yesterday heard more testimony from twins who underwent Mengele's experiments.

"My twin brother had a pleasant voice, and Mengele wanted to see why one person has one kind of voice while another's is different," said Ephraim Reichenberg.

He spoke with the aid of a microphone pressed against his neck. He said Mengele had repeatedly injected him in the neck. After the war, he had developed tumours around his vocal chords.

Arno Matusky, a medical geneticist, said that none of Mengele's experiments had any scientific value.

"The Nazis perverted genetic science into a pseudoscience that proclaimed the supremacy of the master race," he said. "Mengele became and is the evil symbol of the Nazi doctor of Auschwitz. He teaches us the dangers of so-called science that is devoid of humanity."

Last week, a Frankfurt prosecutor said that the reward for Mengele's capture was being raised 25-fold to a million marks — the largest reward in German history — Reuters.

Bulgaria denies drug trade

Sofia: Bulgaria yesterday defended its record in fighting the flow of illegal drugs, and rejected accusations by the US that it was involved in the international drugs trade.

A customs official, Mr Teodor Tsvetkov, told a news conference that there was almost no drug abuse in Bulgaria, and the country had little to gain from its fight against drug trafficking.

Drugs seized in Bulgaria were destined for users in Western Europe, and Bulgaria's action against smuggling was motivated by humanitarian considerations, he said.

Referring to the view expressed by the US Drug Enforcement Administration last year that Bulgarian institutions played a part in drug trafficking from the Middle East, Mr Tsvetkov said: "We cannot let our country be unjustly accused. These charges are absurd."

Mr Tsvetkov said that no Bulgarian citizen, vehicle, or enterprise had been shown to be involved in any episode connected with the drugs trade. Bulgarian officials said that in 1978 and 1980, the country had been cosponsor of world customs conferences on the fight against drug smuggling. — Reuters.

Church says Polish reporting of Popieluszko trial biased

Torun: The Roman Catholic Church has protested to the Polish Government against attacks made on it during the trial of four security police officers accused in the murder of the pro-Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko.

A note sent to the Religious Affairs Minister, Mr Adam Lopuski, by Archbishop Bronislaw Dabrowski complained of biased coverage by the official Communist press.

"In view of the State's monopoly of the mass media in Poland, the conclusion must be that somebody wants to upset relations between the State and the Church," it added.

The note was also addressed to the heads of the official PAP news agency and the Radio and Television Committee.

The protest, sent on February 1, was made public by sources close to the Church.

yesterday on the eve of the delivery of verdicts in the trial in Torun after 26 days of evidence.

The prosecution has demanded the death sentence for Capt Grzegorz Piotrowski and 25-year and terms for Lt Leszek Petala and Lt Waldemar Chmielewski, who are accused of Father Popieluszko's premeditated murder.

A 25-year sentence has also been sought for their superior in the religious affairs department of the interior ministry, Col Adam Pietruszka, who denies instigating the killing and then trying to cover it up.

Archbishop Dabrowski, Secretary of the Polish Episcopal Conference, said the church had been inundated with protests against the wide publicity given to allegations against Father Popieluszko and the Church in radio, television, and press accounts of the trial.

Captain Piotrowski told the court in evidence that the abduction of the priest in October was motivated in part by the frustration the security police felt at the tolerance shown by the authorities.

Captain Piotrowski alleged that one bishop had embezzled funds from Solidarity and that another was in contact with the Gestapo during the Nazi occupation of Poland.

The chief prosecutor, Mr Leszek Pietrasinski, said in his summing up that Father Popieluszko brought about his own murder by his political extremism.

Archbishop Dabrowski said that attempts by lawyers representing the priest's family to defend his reputation and that of the Church were edited from Polish reports of the trial. Reports in the Catholic press have been censored.

Deportation brings Solidarity fears

Warsaw: The deportation of the Solidarity activist, Seweryn Blumstajn, when he tried to return to Poland from exile on Tuesday, could be a step towards the banishment of opposition figures, dissident sources said yesterday.

Mr Blumstajn was detained when he arrived at Warsaw airport from Paris and put aboard the next plane back to France. A Polish government spokesman said his passport was not in order.

A protest signed by dissident intellectuals and supporters of Solidarity who had been waiting to greet Mr Blumstajn said: "This is the first time in Poland's history that a Polish citizen, holding a valid

passport, has been deported from the country without formal consideration."

The signatories included Jacek Kuron and Adam Michnik, who were cofounders of the KOR dissident group and were political prisoners until their release under an amnesty last July. — Reuters.

From Jill Jolliffe in Lisbon

The Social Democrat leader and Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Mota Pinto, has resigned from the party leadership after a significant section of the Social Democrats withdrew support from him. The Socialist Prime Minister, Dr Soares, has assured Professor Mota Pinto that he can continue in office, but if the Social Democrats do not agree to this they could withdraw support from the 20-month-old coalition.

The crisis in the Social Democrat leadership came to a head last weekend, when Professor Mota Pinto walked out of a meeting of its national council after stating that he wanted a vote of unequivocal confidence in his leadership.

The result was a narrow majority of 38 votes to 36, with one abstention. After a further meeting on Tuesday evening, he announced that he would quit the party leadership.

Professor Mota Pinto's slide from favour — he enjoyed a healthy majority at the last party congress, in March, 1984 — resulted from reports that he had decided to back a military candidate for the presidential elections later this year.

Naval research reveals secrets of Russian mutiny

From Norman Black in Washington

IN THE pre-dawn darkness of November 8, 1975, the Soviet missile frigate Storozhevoy quietly slipped its lines and headed out to sea from the Russian port of Riga.

So began one of the most extraordinary, although ultimately unsuccessful, mutinies in modern times, new details of which have just been published. Before the incident was over, this account says, the Storozhevoy had moved well out into the Baltic sea on a mad dash towards Sweden and the West, only to be turned back by attacking Soviet planes and other ships.

At least a dozen sailors were killed during the incident, the summary adds, and the leader of the mutiny was later tried and shot. After a final cruise in the Baltic, the Storozhevoy was transferred to the Soviet Pacific Fleet.

The attempted flight of the Storozhevoy has been reported in the past by US and European newspapers, but never acknowledged by the Soviet Union. Now, however, a more detailed account of the incident has emerged.

An investigation by the American officer paints a picture of harsh living conditions on board the ship, of a young, trusted political officer and an unusual series of events that allowed the officer to take charge of a frontline warship — with most of its crew ashore — in a port close to international waters and the West.

The detective work was performed by Lt Cmdr Gregory Young, who earned a master's degree from the naval postgraduate school in 1982 by devoting his thesis to the Storozhevoy incident. His findings attracted little interest, however, until they were summarised this month in the magazine Sea Power.

The navy refuses to comment formally on Lt Cmdr Young's research, although sources say it has been accepted as the most definitive account available. The navy was also willing to put a reporter in contact with Lt Cmdr Young after determining that his work had not been classified. Now an instructor of naval officers at the university of Colorado, Lt Cmdr Young said recently that he had received access to some classified materials on the mutiny.

But he said he pieced together most of the information from other sources, including Russian immigrants who were in Riga and intercepted radio messages.

"There is no doubt the incident occurred," he said. "There are still questions about the details and about what prompted it, but it definitely happened and there is no other incident like this that I can find in the Soviet Navy."

According to Lt Cmdr Young, the mutiny was led by the ship's zampolit, or political deputy, an officer placed aboard every Soviet ship to maintain the ideological purity of the crew. The zampolit on the Storozhevoy, a 3,800-ton war-

ship that was only three years old in 1975, was Capt Valery Mikhaylovich Sablin.

Lt Cmdr Young describes Capt Sablin as an unusual political officer, willing to listen to crew complaints during his lectures on Marxist thought without spouting the standard party line. He says that Capt Sablin had been criticised by newspaper Red Star for not running his political education meetings properly.

Capt Sablin delivered his last such lecture on the afternoon of November 7, 1975, when many of the ship's officers and crew were on leave in Riga commemorating the October Revolution.

That night, according to Lt Cmdr Young's research, Capt Sablin, another officer named Markov, and a dozen or so loyal petty officers locked the ship's captain in his cabin, tied up other officers and ordered "a skeleton crew of unwary 18- and 19-year-old conscripted sailors" to take the Storozhevoy to sea.

As the ship moved out of port, one sailor jumped over the side, apparently unknown to Capt Sablin, and managed to reach shore, Lt Cmdr Young said. It took the exhausted sailor more than two hours to reach naval headquarters in Riga and convince a duty officer that something was wrong on the Storozhevoy.

Even then, it was only after one of the officers on board the ship managed to untie himself and reach a radio to broadcast an emergency message that Soviet authorities realised what was happening. By then, the ship was through the Gulf of Riga, steaming across the Baltic for the Swedish island of Gotland.

Capt Sablin and a number of enlisted members of the crew were eventually rescued. Lt Cmdr Young concluded, "What is so fascinating were the possible causes. What I found were a lot of different things that all probably contributed — discontent on board, bad living and working conditions, ethnic frictions and alcoholism." — AP.

Nato determined to fight European terror wave

Brussels: The Atlantic Alliance, responding to a wave of attacks on Nato targets in Western Europe, yesterday voiced renewed determination to fight terrorism.

After Nato's council of ambassadors here heard a report on security, a spokesman said: "We are determined to prevent and suppress terrorism which seeks to undermine stability and destroy democratic institutions."

The council was keeping the situation under review. Officials said that Nato's own security office reported on a series of precautionary

measures being taken to improve protection against attacks.

The moves follow the murder by urban guerrillas in France and West Germany of a French general in charge of arms sales and a key Munich arms industrialist over the past two weeks in what they call a coordinated attack on Nato.

In France, the Government yesterday named Robert Broussard, considered the country's top policeman, to lead a new campaign against terrorism.

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Two die in Tehran grenade attack

Tehran: A grenade explosion and police gunfire in Tehran left two people dead yesterday as Iran marked the sixth anniversary of the return from exile of Ayatollah Khomeini.

One man was killed and two others were injured when a grenade, thrown from a motorcycle, damaged a building housing a foundation administering property seized from the late Shah and others, according to the national news agency Irna.

Irna said "two US mercenary agents" who threw the grenade, and another which failed to explode, were shot by a policeman while trying to escape. One was killed and the other wounded and arrested, along with a third man at the scene.

The attack was directed against the accounts office of the Mostazafin Foundation in a four-storey building in northern Tehran. Irna said a maintenance chief was killed and two security men were injured.

The attack was the latest in a series of killings in the past few weeks in the run-up to the anniversary of Ayatollah Khomeini's return from exile on February 1, 1979, and the Shah's fall 10 days later.

Ayatollah Khomeini, addressing a gathering in a mosque near his well-guarded north Tehran villa last Sunday, described the attacks as blind terror. "Those who are against us are now engaged in terror," he said, accusing the United States. "But they cannot succeed."

Opponents of the ayatollah usually step up attacks, many of them involving two men on motorcycles, during anniversary celebrations.

Anna Tomford adds from Bonn: A West German court yesterday overturned a government export ban on equipment for a pesticide plant for Iraq that it has been alleged could be used to produce poison gas.

It ruled that the plant, supplied by a Frankfurt-based company, was not suitable for producing poison gas for military purposes. The court also raised procedural objections to the government ban which it said had been authorised during the summer recess and was signed by only two ministers.

The economics ministry in Bonn said it would appeal against the decision.

Lebanon's falling pound signals economic collapse

From Julie Flint in Beirut

FOR A few hours late last month, the Lebanese pound became a currency with value internationally. It fell 10 per cent against the dollar in just 90 minutes, and banks voluntarily suspended trading — for the first time for reasons other than security since the civil war began in 1975.

The last decade has seen the pound drop 84 per cent against the dollar — a disaster for a country which imports more than two-thirds of what it consumes. The per capita GNP, once much higher than those of Syria and Jordan, is now much lower. Inflation is estimated at 35 per cent, unemployment at 40 per cent. The balance of payments, which

generated surpluses up to 1982, now stands about \$1.5 billion in deficit.

The situation has worsened since a "last chance" national unity government took office nine months ago. A political settlement is as far away as ever, and tension is rising, as Israel, having dismantled most of its installations in the Sidon area, drags out its final, uncoordinated withdrawal. Against this backdrop, the pound is dropping like a stone, and prices are rocketing, sometimes by as much as 100 per cent overnight.

"A few more years of deterioration and decline," says a financial consultant, Mr. Riad Khouri, "and Lebanon, once the Switzerland of the Middle East, will turn into a combined

of Chad, Cambodia, and measures are announced and then quietly forgotten, much like the "security plans" that

shattered by 10 years of war, by destruction heaped upon destruction, and, of late, by the suspicion that Lebanon has no future except, perhaps, in partition.

Arab states are refusing new aid and holding back on old commitments. The Lebanese, who once used any lull to rebuild, no longer do so. The Lebanese Government, always weak, is now terminally weak. Lebanon's infrastructure has collapsed, infrastructure runs rampant. Freeway dues are not collected, illegal ports strip the state of vast amounts, insider trading makes the sick pound sicker.

From time to time corrective

measures are announced and then quietly forgotten, much like the "security plans" that shattered by 10 years of war, by destruction heaped upon destruction, and, of late, by the suspicion that Lebanon has no future except, perhaps, in partition.

The pound reacted to this by accelerating its downward plunge, losing 4 per cent next day and recording its worst day ever on Monday with a 14 per cent drop. Pouring money into the country is no good," says an analyst. "This is a small country. It wouldn't take more than a few hundred million dollars to start the economy going again. As for corrective measures, they are not only

doomed to failure but would be counter-productive: the more the Government tries to get its fingers in, the more solution is to scrounge.

The solution is to restore confidence in the Government, and this can be done only by political measures." In the past week, leaflets have appeared on the streets of Beirut announcing "with great sadness" the passing away of the innocent Lebanese pound. "Condolences are well-come at the Central Bank, the White House, and in the hovels of the starving."

Lebanon's poor, never all that poor, are becoming generally destitute. For some, the solution lies in crime: theft, burglaries, and bank robberies are reaching epidemic proportions. For others, there is ad-

herence to a militia, a gun, and a pittance of sorts. For many, however, the only solution is to scrounge.

There are still some very rich Lebanese, but, with the exception of the politicians, the warlords, and their retainers, they tend to spend little time in Lebanon.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kim flies home to S. Korea

THE South Korean opposition leader, Mr. Kim Dae-jung, left Washington yesterday to return home after two years in US exile, saying that it was time the Seoul Government granted him an amnesty.

Before boarding his plane for the two-day journey to Seoul, Kim commented on his 1980 goal term for extradition from which he was released to go into exile: "It is time for the Government to be lenient."

The 59-year-old former presidential contender, a strong advocate of Western-style democracy, has accused President Chun Doo Hwan of heading anti-liberal dictatorship. He expects 50,000 supporters to welcome him home at Seoul airport — Reuters.

Maori protest

MAORI protesters disrupted celebrations of New Zealand's National Day at the historic Waitangi Treaty House grounds in the Bay of Islands yesterday, writes Ian Tompkins in Wellington. It is the second year in succession that there have been disturbances at the celebrations as Maori groups seek air grievances over the failure of the Government to honour the terms of the treaty of Waitangi under which their forebears ceded sovereignty to the British in 1840.

Panda operation

SURGEONS in south-west China have successfully removed a cataract from the eye of a giant panda and have high hopes that it will be able to see again, the New China News Agency said yesterday. The 12-year-old female, one of an estimated 1,000 pandas still surviving in the wild Sichuan mountains, was found three months ago close to death from starvation — Reuters.

Charges denied

BERNHARD Goetz yesterday denied charges of illegal weapons possession in connection with the shooting of four young men on a subway train in New York last December. Judge Stephen Crane reduced Goetz's bail from \$50,000 to \$5,000 cash and set a hearing for February 27 — AP.

Sindona trial

THE Sicilian financier, Mr. Michele Sindona, has belatedly agreed to appear at his fraud trial in Milan reversing his decision in December to allow the trial to go ahead in his absence, judicial sources said yesterday. The trial is to be suspended until February 18 — Reuters.

Vatican dispute

THE Vatican representing lay Vatican employees has proclaimed an indefinite "state of agitation" in a dispute with the Holy See over pay and other issues, union officials said yesterday. Strikes may be called at short notice — Reuters.

Tougher laws

NGERIAN landlords whose tenants commit armed robbery or other serious crimes may now be charged as accomplices, a police spokesman said in Lagos yesterday. He said this was one of several steps taken to stem a recent increase in such crimes — Reuters.

Whale rescue

AN icebreaker has been sent to smash an escape route through thick ice for more than 1,000 white whales trapped near the Bering Sea, officials said in Moscow yesterday — Reuters.

Poll proposal

THE Zimbabwean senator, Garfield Todd, has called on Mr. Mugabe to postpone the general elections until late 1987 to allow political tensions to ease, writes Andrew Meldrum in Harare. No response was received from the Government.

Quake victims

ALMOST 40,000 Argentines have been made homeless by an earthquake which rocked the western city of Mendoza 10 days ago, the UN disaster relief group Undro said in Geneva yesterday — Reuters.

Killings protest

COMMUTERS in Bombay railway builders and logs on trains yesterday to protest against the killing of six people during a violent demonstration — AP.

Arsenic alert

ABNORMALLY high levels of arsenic have been found in soil samples from a district of the city of Hamburg, one of Europe's major refineries is located, a city spokesman said yesterday — Reuters.

Shi'ite area surrounded after bombings

Israeli army moves on Palestinian camp

From our Correspondent in Beirut

Hundreds of Israeli troops yesterday surrounded and searched a Palestinian refugee camp, a Shi'ite Muslim village, and a Shi'ite training school near the southern town of Tyre, in apparent retaliation for a double bomb attack that wounded 10 Israeli soldiers on Tuesday.

Sources in the South say one of the Israelis has since died. His wounds are described as "serious". The attack is the latest in a series of attacks on the area since the invasion against the Palestine Liberation Organisation in June, 1982.

Late last night, the Israelis were still encircling the Bourj Shemal refugee camp and the Imam Sa'ad training school on the eastern fringes of the camp, the scene of Tuesday's bomb attacks. At least 14 civilians are said to have been wounded in the sweep, including three employees of a UN agency for Palestinian refugees.

Tuesday's attack against an Israeli convoy on the edge of Bourj Shemal appears to have been meticulously planned. The convoy was first halted by a roadside bomb. Then a white Mercedes packed with explosives accelerated into an ammunition lorry in the convoy.

Israeli troops firing in all directions immediately stormed Bourj Shemal, according to witnesses. There is still no information on events inside the camp. A few hours later, reinforcements throwing hand grenades entered the Shi'ite training

school, which is named after the religious leader of Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslims.

Fourteen people were admitted to hospitals in Tyre, including a seven-year-old boy in serious condition with gunshot wounds in the stomach; 40 people were moved to an Israeli barracks in Tyre for questioning.

According to Mr. Timor Goksel, the UN spokesman in south Lebanon, the sweep widened yesterday morning when 400-500 troops sealed off the village of Masraha, east of Tyre, a well-known centre of Lebanese resistance, and detained 14 people in a four-and-a-half hour search.

THE Lebanese Minister for the South, Mr. Nabih Berri, said his ministry will pay wages to guerrillas fighting against Israel's occupation, and he vowed there would be more suicide car bombings in the South — AP.

Most of the attacks on the Israeli army in Lebanon now take place in the Tyre area, where the army will remain after it withdraws from the Sidon area later this month.

Ian Black adds from Jerusalem: The Israeli Prime Minister, Mr. Peres, yesterday repeated Israel's warning that it would not intervene to prevent intercommunal fighting in Lebanon after its withdrawal, and would cross the border again only if its security was directly threatened.

Mr. Peres told the army

radio station during a short visit to south Lebanon that the recent attacks on Israeli forces in the area would not delay the completion of the first stage of the three-phase withdrawal, which is due to end by February 18.

"First of all we are going to worry about our own security," Mr. Peres said, "and we will refrain from playing a role in internal Lebanese politics. If we are approached in the future for help within the same parameters as in the past, by the Christians or anyone else in distress, then we will help."

"But we will not take their place, we will not be substitutes for them, and we will not intervene in internal Lebanese quarrels."

The army, meanwhile, dismissed as a "lie" reports that Israeli soldiers killed 25 children at a school near Tyre, and that 100 Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded in the suicide bomb attack outside the school.

Israeli military sources said that soldiers had searched the school for weapons but left afterwards without suffering casualties or making arrests.

The Defence Minister, Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, said yesterday that it was not necessary to change Israel's security posture in the occupied West Bank.

The Al-Azari refugee camp near Ramallah was placed under curfew yesterday, after stones were thrown at a passing Israeli civilian bus and army lorry.



Two members of the Shi'ite National Resistance movement patrol a hillside near Tyre armed with AK-47 rifles and a light anti-tank weapon

Vietnam offensive nears key Thai border town

Aranyaprathet, Thailand: Vietnamese forces, driving westward under cover of heavy artillery and mortar fire, bombarded a string of Khmer Rouge positions yesterday, Thai military sources said.

The Vietnamese hit Khmer bases along the frontier to 11 miles south of Aranyaprathet, sources said. The Khmer retaliated with mortar and rocket fire, and 20 shells fell

into Thai territory. Casualties were not known.

Fighting was also reported in western Kampuchea, where resistance guerrillas attacked Vietnamese troops, stalling Vietnam's drive toward the guerrillas' mountain stronghold.

The Khao Din area, about 19 miles south of Aranyaprathet, and the Phnom Malai mountains, have been targeted by the Vietnamese in a fierce dry season offensive that has already toppled seven bases of another guerrilla group, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. The KPRLF is one of the three major groups in a coalition fighting Vietnamese guerrillas in a Viet-Nam occupation force estimated at 150,000 to 200,000 troops — AP.

Pilot dies

Brisbane: A Royal Air Force pilot who was injured when a Chinook helicopter crashed near here this week died yesterday. He was Pte L. Charles Chubb, who had been on exchange duty in Australia for 18 months — AP.

Aquino murder conspirators come to trial in Manila

From T.R. Lansner in Manila

The murder trial of 26 men charged with conspiring to kill Benigno Aquino begins today in Manila.

The leading accused, the armed forces chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Fabian Ver, faces up to 40 years in prison if found guilty on two counts of accessory to murder.

General Ver, who is on official leave but is believed to be still extremely influential in the running of the Government, is a confidante of President Marcos.

He is charged, with his co-accused, in the assassination of the President's most prominent foe as he stepped off a plane at Manila airport on August 21, 1983 on his return from exile in the United States. The 25 soldiers and one civilian

who are also being tried for the killing of Rolando Galman, who, according to the discredited military version, was cut down in a hail of gunfire after slipping through tight security to shoot Mr. Aquino.

The case will be heard in a special government anti-corruption court, the Sandiganbayan. The name means: Something the nation can lean on. The court's jurisdiction over the case is a continuing source of controversy. It gained the authority to conduct proceedings only by virtue of a presidential decree issued by President Marcos on September 5, 1984. A petition has been filed before the Supreme Court, Manila, challenging the Sandiganbayan's authority.

The presiding judge is Manuel Pamaran, who denied in a recent interview that he is a die-hard Marcos loyalist. His reputation has earned him the sobriquet of the Hanging Judge — and by his own account he has sentenced at least 60 men to die.

Seventeen of the men on trial face a possible death sentence, the most serious being Brigadier-General Luther Custodio, who was in charge of airport security when Mr. Aquino was murdered. At least 60 witnesses are expected to testify.

The case will begin with a hearing, on which witnesses may testify, and what evidence will be admitted to the court. This process alone could last more than a week and will give the first indication of how vigorously government prosecutors from the Ombudsman's office intend to pursue the indictment.

Pakistan claims India massing border troops

Islamabad: A senior Pakistani foreign ministry official said yesterday that India had concentrated 100,000 troops close to their mutual border without explaining the reasons.

This was denied in New Delhi. The Pakistani official said that New Delhi had deployed a "menacing concentration of Indian forces within striking distance of Pakistan."

He said New Delhi had not followed the normal practice of informing Islamabad before moving five divisions, including an armoured division, to the Rajasthan state town of Suratgarh, 75 miles from the border.

In New Delhi, an Indian external affairs ministry spokesman said: "It is a case of baseless." An Indian defence ministry spokesman said:

"There has been no special deployment of troops above the normal security requirements of the country since last June."

He confirmed that India and Pakistan had an agreement to inform each other about special troop movements and said the spirit of that agreement had not been broken.

The Pakistani official said New Delhi informed Islamabad last May before it moved more of its divisions into Punjab state bordering Pakistan to control Sikh separatists and storm the Sikhs' holiest temple.

"This intensifies the mystery of why they have not done so this time," he said. "The forward movement of forces from the rear to combat zones is bound to cause anxiety on the other side." — Reuters.

Red faces as India confirms Soviet link

From Eric Silver in New Delhi

India was deeply embarrassed yesterday by the disclosure that the Soviet Union, an important trading partner and one of its main suppliers of sophisticated arms, was involved in the country's biggest spy scandal since independence.

Intelligence sources confirmed that the Russians were among the recipients of classified documents stolen from the President's office, the Prime Minister's office, and the defence and other ministries, along with Poland, East Germany and France.

The Soviet embassy here is understood to have been named by the alleged spy ring leader, Mr. Coomaz Narain, in a court confession in camera on Monday. But the court official who briefed journalists immediately afterwards was apparently under instructions to

conceal the charges of Soviet involvement.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman yesterday declined to confirm or deny a report in the Indian Express newspaper that a Soviet diplomat had been expelled with colleagues from Poland and East Germany. But this was taken as tantamount to confirmation since it would have been in India's interest to deny the report if it were not true.

The French ambassador and his deputy military attaché were asked to leave early. The Polish connection is causing almost as much dismay here as the Soviet link, not least because the Polish Prime Minister, General Jaruzelski, arrived on an official visit next week: India is always happier if it can point an accusing finger at a Western, preferably American, "foreign hand."

The Delhi Government is anxious to contain the damage caused to its diplomatic relations by the spy scandal. Expulsions have been carried out with exceptional discretion, and officials expect agreement on the appointment of a new French ambassador, who has already been named by Paris. There is also no question of cancelling the Jaruzelski visit.

Following Mr. Narain's reported confession, in which he claimed that his Bombay-based company had also benefited from his activities, his boss, Mr. Yogesh Manekal, was remanded in custody here yesterday. He was arrested in Bombay on Tuesday and brought straight to the top-security interrogation centre in Delhi's Moghul Road Fort.

He has protested his innocence and accused Mr. Narain of lying, saying the charge was baseless and nonsense.

The chief metropolitan magistrate, Mr. Bhushan, yesterday rejected bail applications by Mr. Narain and four more of the 16 civil servants and businessmen now in custody. They include Mr. T. N. Khatri, private secretary to the Prime Minister's most senior aide, Mr. P. C. Alexander.

He said in dismissing their petitions: "It is a case of a serious nature involving the sovereignty and integrity of the nation, a heinous crime against the nation and society at large."

Delhi police have arrested two men carrying a record haul of heroin and hashish, said to be worth \$100 million on the international market. Police who recovered 58 kilos of impure heroin and 145 kilos of pure hashish said they were believed to have come from the North-West Frontier province of Pakistan through Punjab.

Some contacts made during this period in other ministries later moved onto positions as personal assistants and clerks in the offices of the Prime Minister and President.

In 1980, he left the Finance Ministry to work for

Pink Tape Spies sold secrets at \$4 a page

NEW DELHI: India's spy ring operated mainly on an "old boy" network of junior clerks who for 25 years slipped secret documents out of cardboard files for a pittance.

Published the "Pink Tape Spies" after the distinctive ribbon used to tie official files in India, they gathered regularly for whisky-drinking parties introducing new members as the years rolled on. The picture that emerges as details of their operation unfold is of an ordinary group of men far removed from the glamorous James Bond image.

The wife of Mr. Coomaz Narain, the 57-year-old businessman named as the "head

of the ring, said her husband liked whisky but not women. "He wouldn't hurt a lizard," she said.

Indians have been stunned by the trifling sums Mr. Narain is said to have paid his contacts for the country's secrets. Photographs of documents were passed on for as little as \$4 a page, plus a bottle of imported whisky.

Lavish parties, reported by some newspapers, were as simple as a group of ageing men sitting down in his office around a bottle of Scotch.

Only those familiar with India's stifling bureaucracy can understand how easily documents were stolen. Government offices overflow

with cardboard files, some tossed carelessly on the floor. Their only protection from prying eyes is the fraying pink tape binding them.

Court statements showed that Mr. Narain started his spying career when he was a Finance Ministry stenographer in 1958. He dabbled first in mainly economic reports involving agricultural estimates and other financial data.

Some contacts made during this period in other ministries later moved onto positions as personal assistants and clerks in the offices of the Prime Minister and President.

In 1980, he left the Finance Ministry to work for

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SEND NOW

THE DAY IN POLITICS

Big spenders given a month to set rate

RATE-CAPPING

By Alan Travis
The Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, last night announced that four local authorities facing rate-capping will have one month in which to set their budgets and declare their rate levels.
He said that the rate precepts asked for by Greater London Council, the Inner London Education Authority, Merseyside County Council and South Yorkshire County Council must not be higher than the figures contained in an Order debated in Parliament last night in order to be legal.
Jenkin said that the purpose in rate-capping was to protect ratepayers from the impact of high rates caused by high spending. All the authorities designated last July to be rate-capped had budgeted this year to spend more than 4 per cent above their targets and more than 20 per cent above their grant-related expenditure amounts.
Last night's Order covered the four upper-tier councils. An Order covering the remaining 14 local authorities to be rate-capped will be tabled within a few days.
Mr Jenkin said that the GLC had doubled its spending in three years while the Lea was "unique in unrivalled extravagance".
In the last three years its school population has fallen by 10 per cent but its spending has gone up by almost one-third to over £900 million.
Mr Jenkin said that many Labour councils had budgeted to stay within his guidelines and the few authorities that did the same. As a result of the Labour Party's policy of non-compliance not one authority had appealed against the maximum rate levels which he announced on December 15.
However, during this period, non-compliance took a



Mr Jenkin: "What is being hidden?"

business and commercial interests of councillors would also come within the scope of the inquiry.
GIBRALTAR
Sovereignty raised
The reopening of Gibraltar's border is good for Britain, Spain and the Rock's people, the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said yesterday as he reported to the Commons on talks with the Spanish in Geneva.
Sir Geoffrey told MPs that the Spanish Foreign Minister, Fernando Morán, had raised the sovereignty issue at Tuesday's Geneva talks, at which they agreed to hold annual meetings on matters of mutual interest.
Sir Geoffrey said that the subject, and said he would make formal proposals later, said Sir Geoffrey. "However, Sir Geoffrey also underlined the importance he attaches to the interests and feelings of the Gibraltar people when dealing with this issue," added the Foreign Secretary.
"For my part, I made clear that the British Government's commitment to honour the freely and democratically expressed wishes of the Gibraltar people... stands unchanged," said Sir Geoffrey.
The Shadow Foreign Secretary, Mr Denis Healey, said he was glad Sir Geoffrey had made no formal approach on sovereignty. "He must recognise that there is widespread opposition on the Rock, and there would be increased opposition if there were any pressure from the Spanish side for

Ridley seeks GLC clawback

LEGISLATION which would claw back from the Greater London Council £50 million of support for London Regional Transport is to be introduced into the Commons today, despite a High Court judge's declaration that the claim is unlawful and procedurally improper.
After criticism of his intention to introduce a bill to claw back the money retrospectively rather than to go to appeal, Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Transport Secretary, will seek to get the money back by a Ways and Means motion, which also deprives the House of Lords of any involvement in the decision.
At the same time the Commons will also have to fix the amount of cash required from the GLC for support of the London Transport system during the 1985-6 financial year, a decision which has been seriously delayed by the court proceedings.
In an attempt to defeat the motion Labour yesterday tabled an amendment which would have the effect of deleting the £50 million and limiting the amount of money the Department of Transport could claim from the GLC to £208 million rather than the £258 million it is seeking.
The GLC decided yesterday afternoon to challenge Mr Ridley in the High Court once again, this time over his direction that it must hold a full public inquiry into its proposal to ban all heavy lorries at night and during weekends in London.
The council's transport committee decided after taking legal advice that it would fight Mr Ridley's decision on the basis that he is exceeding his powers in compelling it to hold an inquiry.



FORMER electricians' union leader Frank Chapple, now Lord Chapple of Hutton, taking his seat in the House of Lords yesterday. "I am delighted to be here and intend to come in and make speeches as often as I can," he said

Tory MPs call for privatisation of NCB pits

By Colin Brown
A GROUP of Tory MPs is pressing the Government to come forward with plans for the privatisation of National Coal Board pits once the miners' dispute is over.
The MPs believe that the Government has refrained from proceeding with the idea to avoid further difficulties while the dispute continues.
One Tory MP said this week that it would be provocative to discuss privatisation proposals while the miners were still on strike. But, once the dispute has ended, they believe that the Government will be seriously considering privatisation in a review of the future of the industry.
Six Tory MPs have signed a Commons motion calling for privatisation of the coal industry on the grounds that it provides "a unique opportunity for the leadership of the NUM to invest its money where its mouth is".
Although the motion was tabled by a right-winger, Mr Harvey Proctor, the MP for Billericay, it was also signed by Mr John Wheeler, (Westminster N.), who is on the left-wing of the party.
Mr Proctor said that the Tory back bench was united behind the Government's firm stand in favour of closing down uneconomic pits. But he emphasised that Tory MPs differentiated between rank-and-file miners and the NUM president, Mr Arthur Scargill.
The Tories did not wish to see the miners humiliated, he said: "The vast majority of the miners are patriotic, sane, sensible chaps."
"It would be very dangerous for the Government to be seen to be crowing about the success of ending the strike, because it has been very damaging to the economy and to the Government."

Heathrow bill delay

By our Political Staff
The Transport Secretary, Mr Nicholas Ridley, is expected to announce the Government's decision to delay the passage of a bill limiting expansion at Heathrow airport when he attends a Commons committee next week.
The Civil Aviation Bill was prevented from proceeding through its committee stage by Tory MPs, who supported the Opposition in voting against the Government on the grounds that the bill pre-empted a decision on the Stansted inquiry.
Mr Ridley is believed to have decided to bow to the pressure from the Tory backbench not to proceed with the bill until after the decision is announced on the inquiry into the proposals to site the third London airport at Stansted.
This is likely to delay the bill — which puts a limit on flights into Heathrow — until about June. Although Mr Ridley has insisted that this will not affect the flotation of British Airways, many MPs believe that the row over Stansted will delay the flotation for several months.
Mr Ridley failed to get two earlier motions through the standing committee on the bill.

LOCAL POLITICS

Council ethics inquiry

By John Carvel, Local Government Correspondent
The Opposition yesterday welcomed the impartial approach which Mr Patrick Jenkin had adopted in setting up an inquiry into local government ethics including the use of ratepayers' money for political campaigning.
Mr Jenkin told the Commons that the committee headed by Mr David Addicombe, QC, was being appointed to "inquire into practices and conduct governing the conduct of local authority business in Great Britain".
It is being asked to pay particular attention to "the rights and responsibilities of elected members; the respective roles of elected members and officers; and the need to clarify the limits of discretionary spending by local authorities and to make any necessary recommendations for strengthening the democratic process."
The inquiry is being asked to make an interim report on "overt political campaigning at public expense." Its attention is also directed to problems of propriety which may arise from members' conflicts of interest particularly where officers of one council serve as councillors on another.
Mr Jenkin told Dr John Cunningham, the Shadow Environment Secretary, that the

LOCAL POLITICS

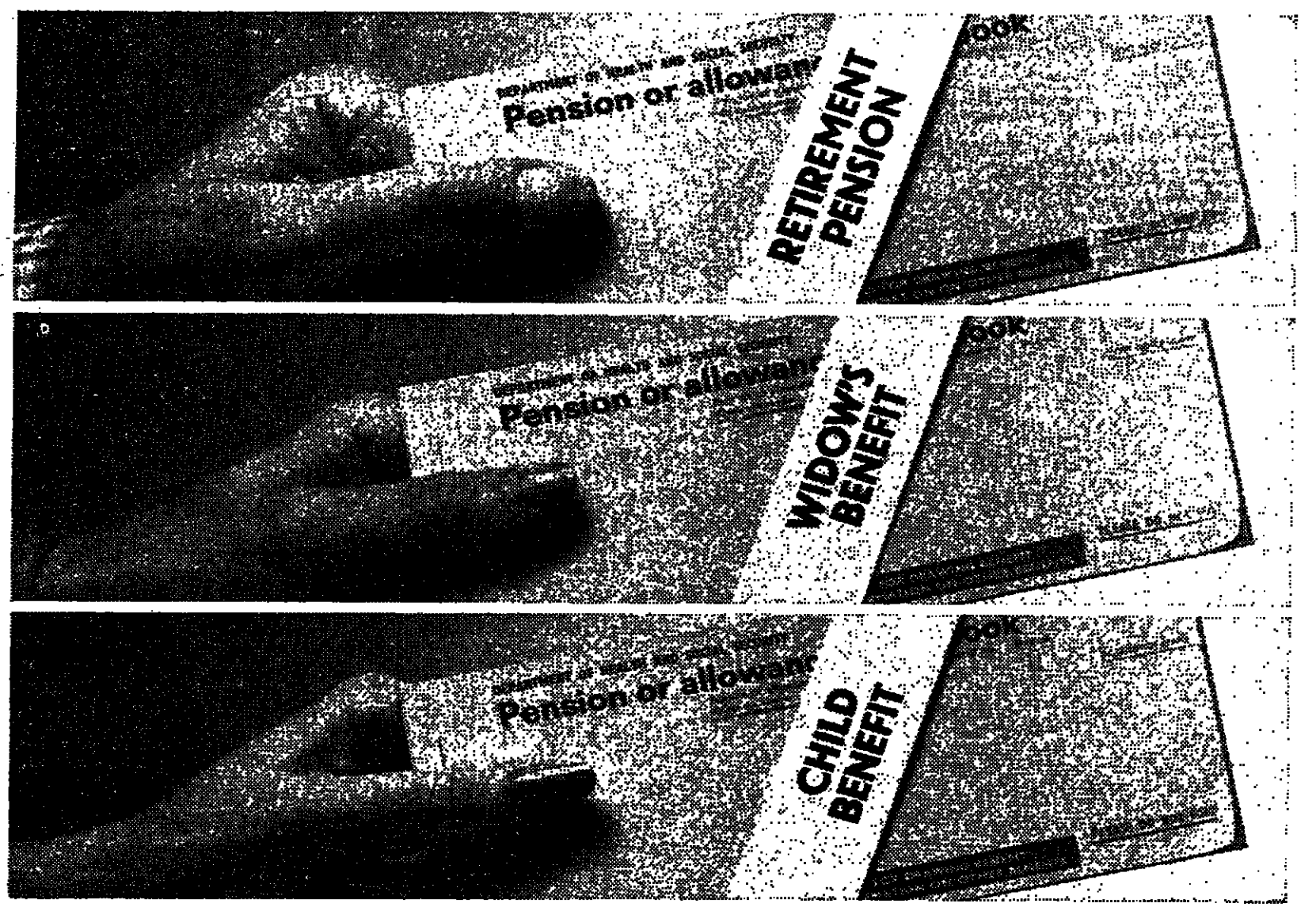
Council ethics inquiry

early negotiations on this matter.
Mr Healey also urged the Government to seek "better relations with another Hispanic country, which also maintains historic claims to sovereignty over a British colony."
But Sir Geoffrey replied there was "no parallel" between Gibraltar and the Falklands. "They are historically different, legally different and constitutionally quite different," he insisted.

RESEARCH

Owen hits at cuts

Cuts totalling £10 million in real terms in research programmes for engineering were attacked yesterday as "potentially disastrous" by the SDP leader, Dr David Owen.
He told the Oxford Union that the Government's public expenditure plans, which disclosed the £10 million real terms reduction in the budgets of five research councils and in support for the Fellowship of Engineering were "a grave development."
He urged "armchair academics" to take up the cause of protecting Britain's scientific future by appealing directly to the public.
Speaking to journalists at Westminster yesterday, Dr Owen said that he believed the point had been reached in the miners' strike where "the Government should do nothing at all."
Dr Owen said there were major faults in ministers' handling of the strike, but he made clear his view that they should not embark on a new initiative to achieve a quick settlement.



Recovery from DHSS industrial action.

We are making good progress in clearing the backlog of work following the ending of industrial action at our Newcastle computer centre.
We are grateful for your co-operation and patience. Please continue to help by not writing to Newcastle (unless you are paid 4 or 13 weekly and your circumstances change) or to the Child Benefit Centre, Washington. Only get in touch with your local social security office if you need urgent advice or payment, or to report a change in your circumstances.
PENSIONS
Normal payment arrangements for pensions will be fully resumed as quickly as possible. Until this can be done, emergency payment arrangements will remain in operation as follows:
□ Until your new order book is available, the post office will continue to pay on your old book. We have started issuing new books but it will be June before all old books are replaced by new ones. So don't worry if the post office doesn't have yours before then.
You can find out when your new book will be available from posters displayed in most post offices. When the post office gives you your new book, tell them if you have missed any payment on your old book.
□ If you're receiving payment from your local social security office or by Girocheque from Newcastle, for example in place of payable orders normally issued by the Newcastle computer, you will continue to get payment on the due date until your usual method of payment is resumed. Newcastle has started issuing 4 or 13 weekly payable orders.
Payments by credit transfer to a bank or building society account are now being made normally.
CHILD BENEFIT
Normal payment arrangements for child benefit have been restored for most people and will be fully back to normal by early February.
Watch for further announcements, which will be made in the newspapers as necessary.
Issued by the Department of Health and Social Security.

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A nation of immigrants

Peter Vansittart reviews two new books on the Huguenot diaspora

Huguenot Heritage: The History and Contribution of the Huguenots in Britain, by Robin D. Gwynn (Routledge, £15.95).

A Family from Flanders, by John Peters (Collins, £12.95).

HISTORY rebukes chauvinism. Post-conquest England benefited from immigrants, notably Jews, Flemings, Huguenots. The last name, first used about 1500, is of disputable origin, though its bearers introduced "refugees" to the language, and perhaps some three-quarters of the English have Huguenot ancestors.

French-speaking religious dissenters, Flemish Walloons arrived here in the sixteenth century, fleeing Spanish persecution. They facilitated the production of such manufactures as glassware and the new draperies of the late Tudor, early Stuart period, and silks and white paper in the 1690s. Competing for cheap employment, they could be unpopular, particularly among weavers. But this was not inevitable; they often aroused considerable doctrinal sympathies. Religion, like anti-semitism, capital punishment, sport, can transcend rigid economic and party lines.

The Privy Council, particularly Burghley, was politic in welcoming Protestant aliens, especially if they had expertise and were not too numerous. Tactful about English feelings, the State planted foreign settlements according to local needs and restricted their size, reckoning the coun-

try over-populated. Its Stuart successors believed the reverse. Royal and private charity also contributed handsomely, the last Huguenot pensioner dying only in 1876.

The Revocation of the Edict of Nantes caused some 50,000 French Huguenots to settle here between the 1670s and 1810. These too brought useful trade contacts and craft secret, helping to reverse the imbalance of trade with France, while contributing much to science, law, art, and the early industrial revolution. London, Norwich, Canterbury had large French communities. Some 5 per cent of London's population was Huguenot, soon expanding the west and eastern suburbs, and Defoe noted their active role in the prosperity of Norwich and Colchester. Gwynn covers the industrial disputes involving aliens, the Clock Makers Company forming to protect native interests; also Louis XIV despatching agents to urge repatriation.

Meanwhile, they were important in printing and binding, architecture, furniture, carpets, velvets, calico, soap. They helped pioneer lasting, durable insurance, the first newspaper press, oxtail soup, soft rain-proof hats. "It is one of the minor ironies of history that thereafter Catholic cardinals at Rome had to have their red hats made by Huguenot refugees at Wandsworth."

Their Canterbury silk manufacture, later transported to Spitalfields, was foremost in eighteenth-century English prosperity. Seven of the twenty-four original directors of the Bank of England were of Walloon or

French extraction. Huguenots designed the first Westminster Bridge and the Charles I statue in Trafalgar Square.

"How can one estimate the influence of the formidable trio of late seventeenth-century librarians," writes Mr Gwynn: "Henri Justel (at the royal library in St James' Palace), Elie Bouchereau (a doctor from La Rochelle who became the first librarian of Marsha's Library, Dublin), and Paul Colombes (also from La Rochelle, at Lambeth Palace Library), or of their eighteenth-century successors like Matthew Maty and his son Henry Maty, at the British Museum?"

What was the impact of over 65 members of the House of Commons of Huguenot descent between 1724 and 1832? And the numerous Huguenot diplomats? How can one assess journalists and pamphleteers, a wit and a dramatist like Tom D'Urfey, writers like Harriet Martineau or Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu? What has been the influence of Peter Mark Roget's Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases?

Gwynn mentions Huguenot blood in Isaac Oliver, Rubens, David Garrick. Churches were usually generous, the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral becoming "The Strangers' Church." Things changed under Laud and his passion for uniformity: one article in his impeachment was his hostility to foreign churches.

In apparently the first substantial book on the subject since Samuel Smiles, 1867, he covers the immigrant social, religious, commercial organisation and fashions, their political loyalties, the problems of assimilation. He adds, as does Peters, advice about

tracing ancestors, though Peters' book is the full demonstration of this, fleshing out general history in a personal search for his Walloon de la Pierre forbears from their sufferings — Marie de la Pierre buried alive — in sixteenth century religious persecutions to their arrival in England in 1635, and their later fortunes.

The Spanish treatment of the Low Countries is familiar enough. On the Council of Blood, Alva's deputy observed that all Netherlanders deserved death: the heretics for pillaging churches, the Catholics for not preventing them. Christian charity! But Peters presents much original material, notably letters from the obscure, and is most instructive on his relatives' subsequent experiences in England, where Walloons practised the thrift, family cohesion, industry, literacy, associated with the later Huguenots.

A Dutchman in England, in 1575, noted the laborious, difficult and skilled work was mostly left to foreigners. Immigrants were astonished by the cheap food, Cranmer and the Anglican hierarchy were usually generous, the crypt of Canterbury Cathedral becoming "The Strangers' Church." Things changed under Laud and his passion for uniformity: one article in his impeachment was his hostility to foreign churches.

Archbishop Parker rebuked the Walloons' reluctance to marry English girls. Warn your people to obtain full citizenship and not to be too hard on the Queen's subjects." Too much in both these useful books is suggestively contemporary.



Lehmann—women

by Jane Miller

Rosamond Lehmann. An Appreciation, by Gillian Tindall (Chatto £10.95, paper £4.95).

GILLIAN TINDALL writes from long devotion to Rosamond Lehmann's novels and recent friendship with the novelist. For these and other reasons she is bent on diverting "spotters" from their intent on the supposed originals of the men in the fiction. If this provokes some windy preaching about what art may do to life it also allows for deft use of the novels and their version of women's contradictory views of men and of sex.

Rosamond Lehmann is nearly as old as the century, so that Dusty Answer, her first novel, and The Echoing Grove, her best, can be understood as the first of the First World War and the Second. She grew up into a world where what Tindall characterises as "the wonderful young man" of her heroines' dreams was likely to be dead.

At that substantial in the men of the earlier novels may well stand for absence and for the possibility, which Lehmann has apparently conceded, that they prefigure the real men in the author's life and are not portraits.

Whether they are to be read as blueprints or as suspect survivors, they are made partly responsible for the subverting of the romances they invite. They also and honourably give warning of their inadequacy, as Lehmann's first husband might be said to have done in writing to a Cambridge friend, "I know it must seem extraordinary to want to spend one's life with a woman, but Ros is much more like a boy than a woman. She has the mind of a man."

Gillian Tindall is properly taken aback by this view, yet she is also able to assert that men are "less strongly endowed by nature" than women are, even as she confronts in what she calls "Lehmann-woman" contradictory urges which she regards as characteristically female.

For Tindall the novels are prophetic of Lehmann's life. Their exploration of the conflicts between sexual love and the mothering of children, between connections with men and productivity, are dreams of her own future. So they may be. Yet this can seem like a sleight-of-hand, which diminishes by its suggestion of clairvoyance insights about women writers who become outsiders in their own fictions, and about men who may become for those women writers impostors in the roles imagined for them.

Rosamond Lehmann deserves this sensitive appreciation, yet it is possible to feel that Gillian Tindall has been beguiled by her subject's disavowal of any political "view." Passages from the novels quoted as typically compassionate responses to the ugliness of poverty can as easily be read as expressions of resignation, and objection to the world not rest on quality of feeling alone, but on the sterility of considering women's turmoils in isolation.

The pains of "Lehmann-woman" are real enough. If they are also by now quite often resolvable, that may be because they are enacted and debated within a privileged world which is relentlessly defended in the novels against the kinds of change which might also affect the lives of women suffering within it.

The dynamism of great cities

Peter Worsley on the Jacobs theory

Cities and the Wealth of Nations: Principles of economic life, by Jane Jacobs (Viking, £12.95).

PROPHETS come in two sorts: the Jeremiah/Cassandra type, with staring eyes and flowing locks — prophets of doom — and the charismatic bringers of hope. Jane Jacobs would like to be numbered among the hopefuls, but finds little but gloom all around.

Success for either type can only come when their message is very simple one: that cities are the "milk cows" of economic life, and that the economic ills of the world, today and in the past, are due to the failure to develop "dynamic" cities, the important-replacing cities. Such cities spark off chain-reactions across the whole economy in five key ways: they concentrate more people with more skills together; they become markets for goods, urban and rural, from outside; city-type production and urban skills get transferred in "inert" cities and in rural areas; urban cities new uses are found for urban technology in agriculture itself; and capital gets accumulated in the city too.

This general theme is illustrated by a cornucopia of examples drawn from all epochs and all regions: from Tokyo to the Sun Belt, from Uruguay to Ontario, from Peter the Great's Russia to the Shah's Iran.

Nations on the other hand, are bad things: political and military entities, they are "flawed" and "inherently unstable" economic units, no matter how much that may be disguised by "good" national statistics which are nothing but "grab bags" lumping together dynamic cities, inert ones, and the rural economy. The latter may supply the dynamic cities and constitute a market for them, but grow out of the urban nerve-centres.

The Second World War, we are told, just don't understand the vital connections between agricultural yields and productivity and the unavailability or availability of city jobs. (I wonder, then, why they used internal passports for decades to keep peasants from invading the cities, and why it is that today only a third of the population of the USSR are peasants?)

The failures of the Third World to "take off" is due to the same thing: the absence of dynamic cities. The book is as influential as Jane Jacobs' carry credibility not so much because of the rigour of their argument as because they are, as C. Wright Mills put it, anchored at key points to empirical data. There are a lot of these in this book, and she knows more than most people and has the skill to put her ideas across. And who could disagree anyhow with her picture of the disadvantages of capitalist "globalisation" dependence upon one single commodity,

copper, or Socialist Cuba's dependence on sugar? Or that there are rich (but vulnerable) backward (i.e. primary-producing) countries like Canada and Australia and poor ones like Botswana or Bangladesh?

Having smitten experts and policy-makers in all three worlds, she exhibits similar populist even-handedness in hammering those who look to the defence industry to relieve unemployment and recession and those who advocate capital assistance to enervate backward regions.

Her objections to the military solution are characteristically offbeat: not because such growth threatens to destroy the world, or because military expenditure has put US civilian industry years behind the Japanese, or the importance of defence is capital-intensive rather than labour-using, but because military programmes do not produce "prolonged" booms, or only do so where there is "coincidence" between the military and the civilian sectors.

Aid to "obdurately backward" zones is also denounced as useless unless it stimulates initiative. Insightful as these observations are, aid is only a "transaction of decline."

All good Protestant stuff, and not entirely untrue. But one is left with the faint idea of how this kind of idea of how the world is to be induced. She comes close to saying that nations ought to be replaced by city-state units like Singapore but can't quite bring herself to do so, in any case, there are "no magic" in small units, either, while "nobility" knows what causes business cycles.

And to make the model simple, she has to leave a few things out, such as the fact that the world is not a simple, static entity, but a dynamic one, with a relative importance of home and export trade, the way labour is recruited and organised, relations between developed and underdeveloped countries, the weight to be put upon heavy against light industry, the impact of technological revolutions, the power of international finance, and so on.

Otherwise, it's a comprehensive and convincing argument.

IN BRIEF

The Fortress in the Age of Vauban and Frederick the Great (Routledge, £30) is the second volume of Christopher Duffy's series on the art of war from Richelieu to the American War of Independence. The illustrations are excellent, and the whole study is rich in the kind of detail that comes only from a wide reading of the sources and study of the terrain backed by the response of a fine historical imagination.

A NEW translation of Durkheim's *The Division of Labour in Society by W D Hall is his first introduction by Lewis Coser (Macmillan, £6.95, £18 cloth).*

On the vanity of sexual wishes

Robert Nye reviews the week's new fiction

FREDERIC RAPHAEL once said that he was conscious above all of being equipped to be a novelist because it was only in a multiplicity of characters that he could reconcile his own "ragged personality."

(Born in Chicago of a British father and an American mother, his grandparents and great-grandparents branched out across the world, he added, like an alien, to his work.) The modest motivation certainly works overtime in Raphael's latest novel *Heaven and Earth* where the first thing that strikes the reader is the range of characters assembled for our entertainment in an English cathedral city called Chaworth.

Central to the plot is a failed Cambridge academic, Gideon Shand, making his living as a lecturer with the Open University and by odd jobs of research work for television documentaries. Shand is a decent chap in a not especially decent world, determined to be happy in his marriage, trying hard to do the right thing by his wife, Miranda, and Tom, Tom however, is one of nature's victims, regularly beaten up by the local louts, and it is to protect him that Shand decides that the family must move.

Enter Stephen Hellmann (symbolic name?), Shand's Cambridge pal, now a very successful Q.C. and Hellmann's overbearing wife Miriam. Miriam finds the Shands a cloying, self-indulgent, an area incidentally, which Raphael seems to know inside-out and in no time at all her cloying kindness has the two marriages unpleasantly mixed up.

But beyond and above being a study of the vanity of human sexual wishes Heaven and Earth provides rich



Frederic Raphael. *Heaven and Earth*, by Frederic Raphael (Cape, £9.95).

Organized Crimes, by Nicholas von Hoffman (Michael Joseph, £9.95).

The Barker Foundation, by Anthony Macmillan (Macmillan, £9.95).

The Final Passage, by Caryl Phillips (Faber, £3.95; £8.95 cloth).

entertainment in the shape of a whirl of minor characters, snobs, religious nuts, fugitives, and a host of other things. Heaven and Earth is a novel in which the blood drops look like congealed wine-guns, glib South African ex-lawyers with clairvoyant wives, and a detective inspector called Teifer with an uncanny gift of perception.

I have never lived in an English cathedral city, but I would guess that Raphael is spot-on in his observation of the peculiar variety of people who find themselves attracted by neglected spires as if by some magnetic drawing out their eccentricities. Witty,

stylish, clever, the book also contrives to create a plausible texture of English life as currently lived by a certain class of ambitious chaps with a constant and almost ritualistic reference to flowering Axminster stairs, Cambridge shires, bisexual right-wing clergymen, pinkies, poppies, and all the bright tatty rest of it.

It would be possible for some future historian to reconstruct the feel of 1985 from Raphael's anthology of its material and spiritual detritus, and that is another thing which equips him to be considered as one of our most competent and consistently entertaining chroniclers.

People and trash are also the strong suits of a new American writer, Nicholas von Hoffman, making a striking debut with a novel called *Organized Crimes*, set in the Thirties in Chicago, full of organised corruption and disorganised violence, the story of a young and wealthy sociologist, student, Archibald, who sets out to study the rackets from the inside after witnessing a killing in a subway.

This is a dark, heavy, grindingly powerful analysis of sado-masochistic human politics, redeemed and tempered by von Hoffman's ability to bring to life the real figures who made up the Mob who ran Chicago in those days. His protagonist's infatuation with a young Jupiter moll, Al Capone's most notorious henchman, is the vortex which draws him down to street level, until the would-be observer has deteriorated into just the sort of small-time hoodlum he set out to understand.

The fog of circumstantial fact is deliberately contrived to throw Archibald's corruption into clearer focus, and in

this it succeeds brilliantly. Above all, I am convinced by von Hoffman's tone and by his command of detail. He has the gift of the novelist's gift, of telling you things.

This book stands somewhere between James Farrell and Dashiell Hammett, but it stands there on its own feet and it will be interesting to see where the author can go next.

Back in the world of straightforward masculine romance and conventional adventure, Anthony Macmillan's less turns in a very solid read with his *The Barker Foundation*, a suspenseful which takes in commando fighting in Yugoslavia and Italy in 1944 and 1945, and a man's search for the truth of the part played in this by the good soldier whom he has always believed to be his father, demanding narrative vigour makes this an acceptable entertainment and perhaps a bit more in that the author really seems to know a great deal especially about the Yugoslavian expeditions which I have never read.

The Final Passage marks the debut of a talented writer, Caryl Phillips, born in the West Indies in 1958, but brought up in Leeds and Birmingham. Not unexpected to deal with the experience of emigration from the Caribbean in the 1950s, and the impact of this on British society; but its sensitivity derives from a real understanding of the individual British society on the mind of a nineteen-year-old girl, Leila, whose attempt to create a new life for herself in England gives the book its heart and its bite. Phillips writes a nicely elegant prose, and the effect is truthful, modest and convincing.

Rather more than a wizard

Lloyd George: from Peace to War, 1912-1916, by John Grigg (Methuen, £19.95)

JOHN GRIGG sets an appropriately brisk pace in the first pages of the third volume of his biography of Lloyd George. The scene moving quickly from North Wales to London, and he maintains the pace to the end.

Lloyd George is then at the summit of power and Downing Street has its first garden suburb. The view from Whitehall in 1913 was as bleak and menacing as the view from a stormy Cap Martin had been in 1912. Defeat in war of an unprecedented kind was immediately possible, and victory no more than a distant, elusive gleam.

In his preface Grigg states modestly that his biography is not designed to supplant all the good books that have been written about Lloyd George but to supplement them. There have, of course, been far more bad books about him than good ones, some of them written by his admirers, and it is abundantly clear that Grigg's three volumes,

including this one, that this is the biography. The research is thorough, the writing is lively, and, above all, the stance is right.

Grigg has no doubt about Lloyd George's strengths, which were too varied to be described simply in terms of wizardry. He has no doubt either, however, about his weaknesses, and he never hesitates to discuss them. He is so honest in his criticisms not only of decisions or policies but of particular speeches, including the most famous, that Lloyd George would have been uneasy in his presence.

Finally he strikes exactly the right balance between public life and private life, one of the most necessary sets of biographical skill. Frances Stevenson, at the end of his life to become Countess Lloyd George of Dwyfor, figures prominently not only as evidence but as a main participant in the story, and Grigg is as honest about her as he is about Asquith or Churchill.

They attracted different kinds of support, however, and provoked different enemies, even among historians. The extent to which this was a matter of principle or a matter of style will continue to be argued, though it is evident as Grigg points out, that while Asquith played it cheeky, Lloyd George played it

When Asquith fell from power in 1916 he had been Prime Minister for almost nine years, the longest continuous tenure of office since Lord Liverpool, and much of this tenure is concerned inevitably with Lloyd George's relationship with him. Their differences were obvious, their similarities, picked out by Grigg, less so.

Grigg's research into the background of strict Nonconformity, a buttress of the party which they led. Both were outside the Establishment. Above all, they both loved power, and they were often uneasy about sharing it.

They attracted different kinds of support, however, and provoked different enemies, even among historians. The extent to which this was a matter of principle or a matter of style will continue to be argued, though it is evident as Grigg points out, that while Asquith played it cheeky, Lloyd George played it

The First World War changed Lloyd George far more than it changed Asquith, but political defeat in 1916 changed Asquith more than concomitant political victory changed Lloyd George. As Grigg states, the ending of their long partnership was "a disaster for both, as well as for their party and country."

In making this particular judgment Grigg has longer-term perspectives in view. He is aware of the caution about these so that the one quality of his work as an historian which remains to be fully tested is his sense of perspective. Once or twice he compares what Lloyd George says at the time with what he writes years later, and that offers a kind of perspective. Yet there is more to it than that. It is impossible clearly to extricate this particular biography from the bigger history, more alarming than inspiring, of party and country.

Dark Time, ed Nicholas Humphrey and Robert Jay Lifton (Faber); *My Country is the World*, ed Cambridge Women's Peace Collective (Pandora); *On the Perimeter*, by Caroline Blackwood (Faber); *Or Shall We Die?* by Ian McEwan (Cape); *The Russian Threat*, Garrison & Shivers (Thames); *Super Powers in Collision*, by Chomsky, Steele & Gittings (Penguin); *Tusk, Tusk*, by David McKee (Faber); *War Atlas*, by Michael Kidron & Dan Smith (Pan/Photo); *War Plan UK*, by Duncan Campbell (Paladin).

For further information about Peace Book Week telephone 01-379 6977, ext. 515. W.L.W.

Ordinary people's ideology

Against Socialist Illusion, by David Selbourne (Macmillan, £8.95; £25 cloth).

THIS BOOK, modestly subtitled "A formidable critique of socialist wishful thinking," is a product of demoralisation, defeat and despair. Incapable of visualising any real alternative to the policies of the Tory government, Selbourne, a Tutor in Politics at Ruskin College, Oxford, has, instead, decided to throw in the towel.

It is not a straightforward defection to a la Paul Johnson or Hugh Thomas, but takes the form of a bitter and unrelenting attack on the entire socialist project. Tawney is as much a villain as Trotsky, Christopher Hill and Raymond Williams. Ralph Miliband and Perry Anderson, Tony Benn and Paul Foot and Peter Hain are all part of the problem. Nothing has ever been betrayed except their own illusions in working-class society.

Once the tedium of the obfuscatory rhetoric is ignored, the main theme of the book becomes clear. Selbourne's argument is as follows: ever since the eighteenth century the majority of

British workers have adhered to "non-socialist and anti-socialist" property-centred notions of what is meant by individual freedom.

The Western working class rejected any form of socialism a long time ago. The "ethics of exclusive individual appropriation" is a near-universal in our culture. Workers are hostile to state interference and devoted to self-reliance. They are eager to escape from rather than control the means of production. They are averse to work, aspire to greater individual appropriation and regard welfare provision as an inferior substitute for what can be obtained by gainful employment.

The popular conviction today is, and always has been, that "what and how much the individual owns, rich or poor, produces the standard of living." Labour, is primarily his or her private business. The logic is obvious. The only "truly progressive cause" today is not socialism, but the "truly progressive cause" is the individual's self-interest. Selbourne's "ordinary people" will not have anything to do with it and they are right. Instead what is needed is a "rearguard protection of the physical and mental integrity of the individual person."

"resistance to oppression" and all this in the name of the "pre-socialist and non-socialist" sense of the worth, dignity, skills and rights of the individual.

The Left is then asked to ditch socialism for good and espouse the contemporary "revolt of individualism against welfareism," amidst a "convergence of radical democratic ideologies across the globe." The least that can be said about this is that it is hardly original. The attack on the Left in the name of a robustly pro-capitalist working class repeats, in a more pretentious form, the substance of the substance of Stephen Haseel's *The Tragedy of Labour* (for some reason not listed in the very lengthy bibliography), without the political knowledge or the subtlety of the movement displayed by the latter.

Selbourne is unabashed in his admiration of Hayek, Friedman and, tacitly, Mrs Thatcher. His attack on communism is as much a celebration of working class ideology as the Black Papers. His ideology is a half-baked version of the French new philosophers, with a dash of the individualism of the valiant programme for

Progress hampered by 150 years of socialism. The result, alas, is boring and predictable. Ferdinand Mount in *The Spectator*, even on a bad day, is far more stimulating and provocative.

Are there new lessons from Ruskin College designed for Britain? Selbourne remains silent on his own brand of "socialist illusion." He does not tell us whether he intends to extend the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, or mention his unrestrained enthusiasm for the "great proletarian cultural revolution" in China. Were they youthful excesses or do they form part of the new scheme?

Against Socialist Illusion is a long and overblown work, it would be wrong to dismiss it as a mere curiosity. It is a symptom of the pessimism which is an inevitable product of hard times. Paradoxically its effect is the opposite of what is intended by its author. It might well sound the tocsin for the intellectuals who have been flailing at anti-statist and anti-working class ideology ever since Thatcher's second victory. They might draw back before being confronted with their own reflections in the mirror of Selbourne's mirror of folly.

Fairly beastly

Walter Schwarz on German angst

Germany Today, by Walter Laqueur (Weidenfeld, £12.95).

could not drag him back to live among them. He makes many good points. For example: "Englishmen or Frenchmen will not normally regard their state as an object of love. German expectations, since Hegel, have been higher." Hence the perpetual sense of disappointment with the dreary rituals of Bonn.

He shows how peace movements, terrorists and writers like Heinrich Böll consistently exaggerate the country's faults, while the respectable majority over-reacts to the threats posed — thereby aggravating the problems. This shows in the *Berliner* — the banning of Communists and others from the civil service — but Laqueur dismisses this as a benign bureaucratic muddle. Yet, unforgivably, he

misses the main points. He finds it "a riddle" that the Germans, who have less pacifist tradition than others, should have produced the largest peace movements, blaming it all on misguided intellectuals and churchmen, about whom he is scornful to the point of near-libel.

His fundamental error is to see the nuclear and ecological anguish of the West Germans as being about West Germany, when it is really about the world. The Germans simply feel it more acutely because each half of their country bristles with missiles pointing at the other half in the name of a super-power confrontation in which they don't feel directly concerned.

Laqueur quotes comforting opinion polls showing young West Germans don't care about rearmament, but he fails to see that they never forget East Germany for a single moment — their brothers on the other side of

the trenches over which they are not allowed to fraternise. How can Laqueur write chapter after chapter on the various West German protests without once mentioning that a third of the vast German forest is dying from acid rain, much of it washed over from Britain? He ridicules the "high-minded muddle" of the Greens, the fashions and illusions in Third-World support groups. He never discovers the link between the German minds between the shortcomings of their arms-exporting consumer society and the famines in the Third World.

This hard-headed, entertaining, self-indulgent book should be read by people who are baffled by the Germans.

Yet the book ultimately and deeply fails. Its evident purpose is to carry lessons of political sense from Washington to West Germans; they must accept vicarious involvement in America's global confrontation with Russia as the sensible "price for protection."

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How to be several heads in the lead



Brenda Polan meets the head of a design consultancy who has collated an impressive array of talent. Pictures by Frank Martin

THE head of the Burton group's mint-new design studio has a pithy way of putting things. As the second highly successful Principles collection was about to be shown at the Savoy last week, Jeanette Todd announced, apropos of something else entirely, "designing is not creative self-indulgence, it is problem solving. And the problem is usually how to offer women clothing they want at a price they want to pay."

That's tough enough, given the economic climate and the demanding nature of the average British woman. But some design problems are tougher and one may be forgiven for saying it, sillier. Take one of the posters recently set Anne Tyrrell Design, the two-year-old consultancy company headed by Anne Tyrrell, senior lecturer in the fashion department at the Royal College of Art and formerly (for 20 years) the designer for John Marks, the mid-market evening wear manufacturer.

Sir Clive Sinclair had invented this useful little electric vehicle, a cross between a bath chair, a 1960s bubble car minus bubble, and a milk float. It was the absence of a protective bubble which created the problem. How did intrepid C3-drivers prevent themselves from drowning, short-circuiting or simply getting thoroughly soggy in a thunderstorm?

Anne Tyrrell Design provided the solution: a pale grey (to match the car, of course) parka with a zippered front pocket containing an extension flap or apron which can be attached to the vehicle by Velcro. Wearing this ingenious garment, drivers keep legs and body dry and arms free to signal.

Most design problems, however, are much more along the lines of Jeanette Todd's definition. In fact, there is more than an echo in Anne Tyrrell's opinion that "it is terribly easy to produce expensive merchandise; it is designing and producing desirable inexpensive merchandise which is hard—ultimately much more satisfying."

Anne Tyrrell's company is intended to substitute for what should be a manufacturer

ing company's design department, the kind of department that Jeanette Todd has set up for the Burton group, staffed with experienced designers specialising in various areas but working very much as a team. Anne Tyrrell has a small staff at her enormous studio in Kensington Gore—machinists and pattern-cutters for making samples—and uses a large team of designers, many of them ex-students of the Royal College, on a freelance basis to design the many ranges which are now coming out of the company.

Her almost constant smile reveals a sunny nature; it takes a little longer to discover the proverbial iron intellect and will of steel. But she has needed all three. Anne, now in her early forties, belongs to the last generation of middle-class women who had to fight to be allowed to work. According to her father, it was simply not done.

It was very difficult 25 years ago," she says, "to do any sort of work as a woman. Against my father's preferences, my mother pushed me to go to art school. Today it is wonderful. Anyone who is prepared to work hard can do anything they want."

It is the success of Anne Tyrrell Design which has largely convinced her of that. It was a big and risky step that she took two years ago when Monty Marks, chairman and owner of John Marks, retired. "I had many approaches from various companies offering me either jobs or freelance commissions and I thought: 'Why not do them all? Not all single-handed, of course, but using all the considerable design talent available in London.'"

"Who was in a better position than I was to find the absolutely right designer for a company's needs? I was familiar with the work of some of the best designers around and I could direct and edit what they did for a particular client without any conflict because the designers were quite used to being directed and edited by me. To my mind that was a much less risky undertaking for a potential client than if they had set out to hire a designer full-

time. It is also much more stimulating for the designers to be involved in several projects than to be bound to one company and its product."

Finance to launch the consultancy was the major hurdle. The Royal College was able to rent her spacious quarters in what was once, according to the Guardian photographer who took her portrait, the Yugoslav embassy and she set about raising the money.

"I do think it was a case of ignorance is bliss. A lack of knowledge is quite a good thing in that, if you knew what was involved, you would never start. But we just went at it and got it together. It was a nightmare."

The client list is long and varied. Anne does an evening wear collection and a leather collection for Astrak under her own name. The Design company produces a fabric range for a French company, advises and designs ranges of womenswear, menswear and childrenswear for a 150-shop chain of stores, is working on several Design Council projects including a smart day-wear range in crepe-de-chine and a workwear range, a new knitwear range pitched at the Benetton market, a new glamorous sportswear collection, a range of household linens and a range of coordinated separates for a chain store group.

She looks pleased with the way things are going and, with a sweep of the hand, compares her present surroundings with the cramped desk behind the lavatory door which was her place in her first job. "This is just my little bit of palazzo; its atmosphere provides inspiration. Exciting things happen to me here."

They are exciting things for the British clothing industry as well, making it easier for design-shy companies to come to terms with its necessity. "New ideas must be injected into the market," says Anne, "and that can only be done by using designers properly. An idea or a project has to be handled by bright people all the way through to production. We are providing that service."

ABOVE: Pink and white print strapless dress 10-16 by Anne Tyrrell for Ronald Joyce, £79 from Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1. Rare Gavelle, Madeleine, Hullabaloo of Hull, Diamante necklace and earrings by Monty Marks from a selection at Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Liberty Regent Street W1. Melaine Osbourne, Beverley, Humberdale, Jenny Wren Antiques, South Glamorgan. Gynietal leather shoes (also black patent, navy and red) £17.25 from Pied a Terre, 44 Old Bond Street, W1 and branches.

TOP RIGHT: Pink, blue and lemon floral print jacket with white figured satin wrap blouse and beige trousers, all vintage 10-16, £210 by Anne Tyrrell for Ronald Joyce from Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1. Elizabeth Grey of Oldham, Diamante earrings by Monty Marks from a selection at Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Liberty Regent Street, W1; Melaine Osbourne, Beverley, Humberdale, Jenny Wren Antiques, South Glamorgan.

HAIR by Debbie Horgan at Daniel Galmi Colour Salon, 59 George Street, W1 (01-499 8601).

LEFT: Pearl grey leather jacket (also ivory) 10-18, £198. Light brown leather trousers (also pearl grey, taupe and maroon) 10-18, £129. Both by Anne Tyrrell for Astrak at Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1. Kendal Millie of Manchester, Cotton pyjama-ticking stripe shirt (assorted colours) and £22 apron by French Connection, from Friends, 44 South Molton Street, W1. Connections, 12 James Street, WC2 and branches. Ties with white tone brogues 2-8, £37.99 from Bertie, 48 South Molton Street and branches. White cotton socks, £3.50 from Grable, 27 Couduit Street, W1.

In the last in our series on the past role and uncertain future of the housewife, Bryony Lavery, argues that the maiden name should not be the only one to change when a woman becomes wife, mother, and home manager

What John Wayne could have told you



HOUSEWIVES CHOICE

"IN ORDER to live in the world, we must name it. Names are essential for the construction of reality for without a name it is difficult to accept the existence of an object, an event, a feeling... By assigning names we impose a pattern and a meaning which allows us to manipulate the world." — Dore Spender, *Man-made language*.

Occasionally, people get stuck with the wrong name.

Marion Morris did much better for himself when he changed his name to John Wayne.

During my golden youth, my mother lived permanently half in and half out of the doorway. She never sat down. Her hands were never empty... they at all times held a cup, a pan, a bag, a piece of sewing, a small child, an armful of comics. She never, even in her doorway, stood still. Half of her body was always on its way from some job in the kitchen, the other half of her body was always on its way to some equally immediate job in one of the bedrooms. Her mind was the sort that the Chinese deem great, in that it could hold at all times many opposing ideas.

Her conversation was of this order: "I've been talking to your father and... will you pass me the potato peeler... he thinks... those two kiddies are very quiet in that bedroom... I wonder what they're up to... just keep an eye on that pan... was that somebody at the door?"

Our talks always ended with her saying: "Well... this won't make the baby a new frock... I'm really, translated from the original Yorkshire means... 'All

these words are all very well, but I have a lot to do."

She was, you see, a housewife. The name I gave her was mother.

I assumed she was there to see to my every need. I was unaware of the maintenance I required. I didn't pay her, I didn't worry about her work load, I didn't care how many hours she worked. I was but a small child.

Chronic sufferer

I grew up in the 1950s. My sister and I were expected to help with the washing up. My brothers weren't. My sister and I washed up in an atmosphere of smouldering resentment. My brothers ran out to play. Short of money one summer, I negotiated a deal with my parents. If I cleaned out the fire-grate every morning, took out the cinders, laid the fire, tidied the living-room, I would get paid. Money. Hard cash. We settled on a fair rate and the contract worked to our mutual satisfaction.

Washing-up was still a tiresome chore, but fire-grate cleaning was now "a job." My brothers were envious of The Fire-Grate-Cleaning Contract but I had tenure. The job

lasted until I found more lucrative employment outside the house.

The pages of the calendar flip over. It is now 1985. I am listening to Denis Norden on the radio telling me that he is a chronic sufferer of a condition known as "Literariness." This condition had reoccurred on his reading the newspaper headline "Government Buying Down."

If your mind's eye instantly pictures Margaret Thatcher in a haberdashery department holding a purse in one hand, duck feathers in the other, beware, you have the symptoms.

I too am a sufferer from Literariness. I get a serious attack every time I hear the word "housewife." My inner eye rests on a silver frame bearing a wedding photograph. The woman in white is smiling. She is arm-in-arm with, is married to, has taken for-better-or-for-worse... a house.

I provide these intimate details of my private life only to explain my confused and ambivalent attitude to the name and the concept "housewife." I loathe the word. One is defined only in relation to a man... and a semi-detached building.

As for the concept... I love having a housewife to look

after me (cf. Childhood). I want paying when I am a housewife for others (cf. Fire-Grate-Cleaning).

I know that very few girls want to be housewives when they grow up, but most eventually. Even fewer boys want to be housewives when they grow up. Most acquire a housewife, either a full-time one, or one who is moonlighting from her other, paid job.

Different meaning

I cannot think of a more fundamentally important job than that of housewife. I can think of no job that is more necessary to decent human existence. I can think of no job that anyone has performed around me ever that has provided me with more physical and mental sustenance. There is no job less likely to be replaced by computer. There are never any redundancies, only shortages of staff. It is performed for love, not money.

Housewife is the name for a many-skilled, many faceted, absorbing job that very few of us aspire to.

Executive, on the other hand, is the name for a many-skilled, many faceted, absorbing job that many of us aspire

to. It is performed for money, not love. The two jobs have many similarities. And different names. They are defined in the dictionary: "Housewife"... a woman who keeps house. "Executive"... a person or group responsible for the administration of a project, activity or business. The first implies a very simple job, the second a most important position. Which of the two would you trust to bring up your children?

Should we raise housewifery to the economic and positional importance of the executive by calling talking to the milkman "a meeting", telling the children off "disciplining" and putting household bleach out of the reach of tiny mouths "doing a workplace safety audit"?

Can you imagine a world in which a man might say modestly... "No, I don't work, I'm an executive"? Can you imagine a day when one opens the Guardian, eager to scan The Housewife's Appointments Page? Names are human inventions. We can change them. By renaming we impose a different meaning and a different pattern. We change the world. What's in a name? Change, that's what.

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THE GUARDIAN

14th February 1985

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Heads held high — or in the clouds?

When the talk is suddenly of how best to lead the lads back "with heads held high" then it is clear that the dispute in question is in its terminal stages and that the union concerned is not about to chalk up a humdrum victory. The emergency meeting of the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers, called at very short notice for today, has but one issue of substance upon its agenda. It is how best to call off a long, bitter and deeply divisive dispute which is now quite clearly, crumbling. There are three obvious choices facing the executive and one of them palatable. The first is to give the Government and Mr Ian MacGregor some form of words about "uneconomic pits". After all, everybody knows that significant numbers of uneconomic pits were closed in the past with union acquiescence and that, whatever the formal outcome of the current dispute significant numbers will be closed in the future with the tacit understanding of the Opposition front bench.

Option one is, of course, bitterly humiliating and overwhelmingly difficult to accept. It is designed to be so by a Prime Minister who appears to want the document of unconditional surrender signed before any bargaining about the small print of the peace treaty can commence. Option two is to soldier on as before. Which is all very well — except that thousands are now deserting the strike each week. The trickle finally does seem close to becoming a flood. What happens when 51 per cent are back at work and the board blandly declares the strike to be over? What happens if some traditionally militant area (South Wales, to name but one) opts out and goes back as united as it came out? (The NUM executive elected to run a series of local strikes. It is now paying the price). What happens if Nottinghamshire decides to end its current state of suspended animation and abandons the union altogether? Will Mr MacGregor, who has never had much time for national wage bargaining anyway, now recognise

each and every reasonably representative breakaway? There must come a point when the temptation is to call it quits and live to fight another day.

And this is where option three comes in. Mr Arthur Sargill makes much of his claim that this is a "defensive" strike. The NUM is demanding nothing. It is merely fighting to protect existing procedures and practices and the output norms laid down in Plan for Coal. Rather than let the strike crumble (or men be starved back to work against their will) why not march, united, back to work, heads held high, without signing any humiliating pieces of paper and without negotiating any humiliating new deal? Then you simply sit it out, your powder dry and your options open. If further attempts are made to close supposedly uneconomic pits you fight them as and when it makes tactical sense. Thus you fight on ground of your own choosing, not on ground dictated by Mr MacGregor. All of which is superficially attractive — at least when compared with the choice between splintering the union and drifting disorderly and defeated back to work or signing on Maggie's dotted line. He who fights and walks away, lives to fight another day.

But, above all, returning to work without negotiations is attractive because it might just unite the executive today. Fighting to the death or accepting the board's ultimatum would inevitably provoke the old "militant" versus "moderate" split. But there is the rub. It would be the unity of evasion. Even assuming that men returning next week would strike in March to defend some new Cortonwood, all the other issues would be shoved aside by a non-settlement. What of the 600 sacked strikers? What of protection for "scabs"? What, above all, of the future of the industry. The Plan for Coal is now so much scrap paper. It needs agreed replacement. The industry must know where it is going — if only because the going will undoubtedly be costly and the taxpayer will eventually be called upon to foot the bill. If union and management can present joint proposals to Mr Peter Walker there is some chance of his endorsing them. Without such agreement, those in government who want deregulation and the "free" market to dictate the future of coal will find their hands immeasurably strengthened. At second glance, the wheeze looks a good deal less alluring.

Bumped in the night

You don't have to be part of the peace movement (though it does probably help) to see yesterday's eviction at RAF Moleworth as a powerfully symbolic act of Mrs Thatcher's Britain. At dead of night, a network of roads in the grain producing heart of England is blocked off. A joint army-police operation, involving 1,500 of our boys, reinforcements of police and 200 vehicles, descends on the "Rainbow Village" in which 150 protesters are encamped as a protest against the deployment of cruise missiles. The village, with its counter cultural paraphernalia of tents and windmills, its chapel, its school and its five acres of winter wheat, is cleared under cover of darkness. To the approbation of local ratepayers and politicians, a new seven mile long, six foot high barrier of barbed wire is erected under the fabled arc lights. All this takes place within a few miles of the birthplace of Oliver Cromwell. The parallel with the Protector's eviction of the Diggers from St George's Hill in Surrey in 1649 is hard to resist.

In a Dave Spart view of things, the eviction is further proof, comrades, that the Thatcher government is cynically exploiting the defeat of the miners to extend its Northern Ireland police state tactics to crush opposition to its military policies. To the Sir Herbert Gussies of the world, it is an act which shows, thank God, that a Conservative government will have no truck with the degenerate weirdos who litter our air bases in increasing numbers. But the Moleworth eviction cannot be seen only as a symbolic or a representative act. There was also a practical problem to be resolved, however much one dislikes it. The fact is that the United Kingdom government has agreed to deploy cruise missiles on its territory. Parliament has approved that decision. That doesn't mean that everyone has to lie back and let the missiles roll without a whimper. Far from it. But it does mean that the missiles will be at Moleworth by 1988 and that effective physical measures have to be taken to protect them. They are, after all, extremely dangerous things.

Mr Michael Heseltine characteristically exaggerated the physical threat caused by

the peace campers when he spoke to MPs yesterday. As Labour's spokesman, Mr Dennis Davies said the people who were evicted are pacifist Quakers not Bader-Meinhof terrorists. Nevertheless, terrorist attacks on Nato targets are on the increase elsewhere in Europe and any government must protect its defence installations. The argument about Tuesday night's operation should therefore be about means and not ends. Was it really necessary to mount such a large, unilateral clearance in such secrecy, or were there not ways of negotiating the withdrawal of the protesters so that their peaceful anti-missile vigil could continue even as the perimeter was secured?

We now know Mr Heseltine's answer. Just as in the miners' strike, ministers have preferred to win their way by a show of force which is increasingly characteristic of British policing. Rights of assembly have simply been ignored in the process. According to Mr Heseltine, the Rainbow villagers were a small, unrepresentative minority. In fact, the polls show majority public opposition to cruise missiles. This Government, though, accords little legitimacy to dissent. And a government which prefers to come secretly for its opponents in the night risks provoking the confrontations that its actions are supposedly designed to prevent.

The Hindley conundrum

Any moment now, the Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, and his junior minister David Mellor, will take a decision about Myra Hindley. In one sense, it will be a very small decision. All that must be done, under rules which apply to every life sentence prisoner, even to Myra Hindley, is to set a date. The date can be soon or a long way off. It is merely a moment at which the local review committee at Cookham Wood closed women's prison, must begin a process of examination of Hindley's case. The committee must assess whether Myra Hindley is suitable to be released on licence. The local review committee will have access to files of every conceivable kind. From lawyers, from the prison governor, the psychiatrist, chaplain, probation officer and all. And probably to files of press cuttings, some yellow with age from long perished newspapers; others, like this

week's Daily Star exclusives, fresh from page reports from newspapers that hadn't even been thought of in 1966, when she was sentenced.

If the local review committee decides in favour of release on licence, which they may not do, the decision goes to the Parole Board. Members of the board will then sit down, to examine the case again. If they uphold it they have several options, including postponement of the actual release date, making it subject to good behaviour in the meantime. In any event, the board's decision must then be considered a third time, by Mr Brittan, and he too can reject it. In other words, this week's decision will only be the start of a long process which can be reversed at any time. In our view, both Myra Hindley and Ian Brady should now have full reviews. Indeed, under new changes in the parole system, they would already be entitled to them at this stage of their sentences, were it not for the fact that they were sentenced before the system was changed. There is a powerful argument in natural justice for reviewing all the evidence and there are personal grounds, in both cases, for considering whether they should now remain in prison.

That's the easy bit, though. There is a much more difficult question to answer. Should Hindley and Brady actually be let out? That can only be answered by those who are fully in a position to judge. All that we can say is that we are prepared to accept the possibility that one or both of them may by now have been punished enough and may no longer be a danger to the public. What we fear, though, is that the ultimate decision, the one that matters, will not be taken on that basis at all. The Moors Murders have an extraordinary hold on the popular imagination. They fascinate and revolt the British public still. Hindley in particular, partly because she is a woman, is a bogey figure in a class of her own. This week's headlines prove the fact. They indicate what hysteria, not to mention physical danger to Hindley, would be caused by her release. That may be regrettable, but it is part of the equation. And it is hard to imagine any Home Secretary, especially with Conservative party conference in mind, who would take the political risk involved.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How the Grantham idyll scans fields of New Corruption

Sir,—Hugo Young (Guardian, February 4) presents Thatcherism as a clean break with the past which has now confronted a different set of well as Luddite miners. It appears that the great drive for modernisation has finally reached the sleepy quadrangles of Oxford.

It seems to me, however, that the truth is rather more complex than this, and much less flattering to Mrs Thatcher.

She has two impulses, both of which are abnormally developed even among radical Tories: a principle of order, and the pre-emptive demand of state authority; and a principle of change, and the priority of market-generated growth. Within the framework of a strong state the only figure capable of revitalising the social order is seen to be the foot-loose entrepreneur.

The problem, however, is that the entrepreneur is interested only in making money rather than making money by making money, and not the sort of money which is necessary, or the fate of her people.

He is patriotic rather than unpatriotic. He is very interested in the state, but only insofar as it can provide a safe haven for his own revenues for his own benefit. This coalition between off-shore finance and state powers is nothing new to

England. It recalls rather vividly the eighteenth century. All that Mrs Thatcher renews is Old Corruption.

New Corruption means quick gains and individual agility in the market place. Translated into industrial policy—such as it is—this means a change from steady profit to spectacular profit rather than a change from steady profit to big investment. It means the low wage rather than the high productivity path for British manufacturing (such as is left of it).

But this has been the instinctive response for more than a century. All that is new in Mrs Thatcher is the shamelessness of the recognition that low wages arrive most certainly with unemployment and that the state is a blunt instrument useful in the field of social discipline. The costs of this reaffirmation of traditional values there after fall on the poorest section of the community at a time when the richest are enjoying an unusual speculative boom.

It might be supposed that at least Thatcherism is somewhat even-handed in all this, and that restrictive practices, feather-bedding, and state handouts to industry are everywhere the subject of attack.

Not a bit of it. It is true that she has sacrificed the solicitors' monopoly of conveyancing and the opti-

cians' spectacle frames, but these are small fry. She is as tender on the sensibilities of the farmers, the defence contractors, and the parents of university students as she is tough on the feelings of the manual worker: business as usual for the Conservative Party.

What is missing is the awareness that industrial advance is a vital precondition for other social goals, and that it requires collective effort and applied science. From the example of Japan we now know that successful capitalism is not uniquely associated with liberal individualism, and that very traditional social values can be mobilised in pursuit of very modern social developments. What Britain therefore needs to identify are resources in her culture and in her history which can render a positive judgment on the work of material production.

From this standpoint, Thatcherism could hardly be worse. It represents to a high degree all those values in the culture which are pitted against material progress. She is the first Prime Minister to have a science degree, but she migrated rapidly to company law. Is this what the Oxford scientists are telling us?

It looks as if industrial regeneration will draw on other sources than the Grantham idyll. Collective ideals need not stifle initia-

tive if they are detached from subservience. The appeal of consent is a powerful counterweight to the claims of progressive which she champions in every direction.

There is no reason in principle why the pragmatic bent that exists in British culture should not be harnessed to scientific goals rather than be strangled by the disdain of high humanism or the neglect of high finance. But on both wartime occasions when a synthesis of national goals and industrial values took place, the British people moved sharply to the left.

Is this what the serried ranks crouched behind Mrs Thatcher are really worried about?

They have already succeeded in creating a banana republic. I fear that by the time she finally leaves the scene, it will be a banana republic without the bananas. Then it will be the task of the Left once again to try to put the pieces back together, under conditions made much less favourable by the intervening jamboree.—Yours faithfully, Alan Carling, University of Bradford.

Sir,—Hugo Young's is one of the rare intelligent responses to Oxford's refusal of an honorary degree for Mrs Thatcher. But he is wrong to set a "misty, con-

genial old world" against some imagined new dynamism that can effectively supersede it, and surely wrong if he thinks any such dynamism has already proved itself.

He is wrong to set "criticism, speculation, study and research for their own sake" against "taking business seriously" and wrong again to go along unquestioningly with what he supposes is Mrs Thatcher's belief, that "the graduates of the past have failed this country." If they have, it is not because they were graduates; the fault lies with the rigid systems and hierarchies they found themselves in after three years flexing their mental muscles.

A good university teaches its students to acquire and organise information and to think critically and independently about it. Having developed those skills and habits, our pupils are ready and willing to apply them in the outside world.

But any university teacher who has kept in touch with his former students will quote evidence that their talents and training have often been wasted by companies that invite their graduate prestige-imports to use their acumen ("tell us if you spot anything we could be doing better") but then resent and reject any actual attempt to do that; or by government

enterprises that press the enterprise and discrimination young people have developed into the fixed mould of standard practice.

Not that green graduates can or should be treated as oracles. But the overwhelming impression is of a world that doesn't welcome new thinking, is amygdal and embarrassed by ideas. No wonder bright minds are turned into mere organisation men or into resigned and disillusioned people, paid to lie fallow.

There is no antithesis between universities and the country's business and industrial interests, any more than there is between fundamental scientific research and the long-term development of technology. We are only against any activity which is unduly unimaginative and unimaginatively conducted, and hence against the imposition of a narrow vocationalism at all levels of education which will further reduce the scope offered to intelligent and imagination.—Yours sincerely, T. J. Reed, St John's College, Oxford.

Futures letters
—page 15

Building one roof to boost art and design

Sir,—It is striking to us as people involved in the issues surrounding the future of London's art colleges that to date you have printed three hefty articles countering proposals for a merger into a single institute and only one letter in favour. Even more striking is the fact that the merger into a communal institute has been presented only in terms of education in art and design.

In truth, the colleges involved in the proposed institute teach a wide range of subjects including every kind of discipline related to the arts in general, the media, and communication. Thus for example, film and television, radio and journalism courses feature widely, with such less obvious studies as furniture and fashion.

The question is not just about art education, but whether this wide grouping of interests would provide wider educational opportunities in a more coherent framework. We believe the coming

together of the eight colleges to create a much wider range of disciplines would lead to a far richer student experience. How much better fitted to the 1980s and beyond will be the artist, designer, printer, and journalist student equipped to meet problems of management, communication, and technology across a range of media.

The obvious danger spotted by opponents is that an institute of such complexity could become the worst kind of bureaucratic monster. We regret that it has pushed forward on the administrative front without fully considering the academic structure of the new institute. For this reason we strongly support the establishment last month of a steering group on academic strategy.

It is only by this kind of consultation that fine art can be protected, and the idealism of students and lecturers be tapped radically to improve London's educational provision.—Yours sincerely, Leslie Grindle, Adam Hopkins, The London College of Printing, London SE1.

Sir,—N. Fletcher's letter (February 2) accuses Brian Sedgmore, MP, of ignorance of art education. In the forum on the proposed institute on January 10 at County Hall, Mr Fletcher admitted he had no expertise in the field of art and design.

But what worries me as a lecturer involved in the merger and as a London voter is Mr Fletcher's ignorance of economics and politics.

It is now clear to all involved that the proposed institute is a response to Government plans to reduce expenditure, and at a meeting at County Hall on January 31, addressed by eminent figures such as Sir Hugh Casson, it was reaffirmed that we still have heard no academic argument for the new institute.

What is really behind this merger is the implementation of Government economic policy by Labour politicians through the back door at the County Hall, being passed off as "securing art education in London." Instead of genuinely defending London's creativity, Mr Fletcher is collaborating with reductions in the public education system and thus betraying the class who put him into office.

P. Brady, London College of Furniture, London E1.

A COUNTRY DIARY

DARTMOOR: The streams were suddenly swollen by melting snow and the Teign was running high. Making use of fishermen's paths, we found a tide-line of seedling oak leaves extending well into the riverside meadows. The light was dull, but the air felt fresh, clean and moist. Near Chagford, the river feeds a series of old mill leats frequented by dippers. Among the stark trees bordering the river, small catkins were already developing and elder buds swelling. The day had, I admit, been planned so that we could arrive in the little town by mid-day. The granite pub is typical of many that have served the

moor for centuries. Opposite the bar there is a large hearth where huge logs burn. Under the beamed ceiling, no sound from radio or electronic tape intruded on the subdued conversations. Home-made food, coffee, and a glass of cider, fortified us for the continuation, down stream, of our walk in the rain. We watched a flock of long-tailed tits and another of clamorous rooks. The spectacular flocks of jays seen in Devon in 1983 have drawn attention to the species. I know it as a solitary bird so, when eight flew past, I took notice, but, according to records, small flocks were occasionally reported decades ago. Vapour

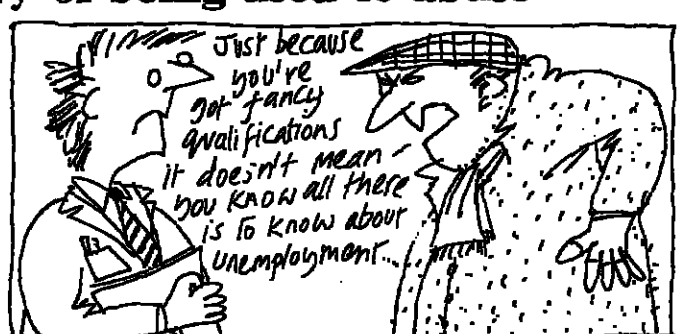
was rising from the gorge below Castle Drogo, and against this singular background a heron took flight. The nearby Whiddon deer park, said to date from Elizabethan times, retains its perimeter wall. As anyone who has worked with stone knows, it is one thing to dress and fit together blocks of fine-grained sandstone; assembling granite to make a continuing surface is a much more difficult process. So the wall, meandering some 100 yards, is a rough rectangular plan. Is it an example of the wall-builders' craft. No deer graze within it now, but it still encloses a beautiful tract of moorland. BRIAN CHUGG

The facile theory of being used to abuse

Sir,—In ruling that we northerners don't need to be kept as warm as southerners because we are not used to being kept so warm, I believe the Thatcher Government has, at one brilliant stroke, provided the key to all those countless social problems that nag at a nation's conscience (or ought to).

By the same logic, we need not bother with employment for the unemployed who are after all, by now well used to being unemployed. The poor can stay poor and the rich stay rich; both are used to it. We need not worry about health care for the chronically sick who by definition are used to being sick; we need not concern ourselves with the world's hungry, pictures of starving children prove that they are used to being hungry.

Something will have to be done about those unruly Oxford dons, although they may choose to reconsider their decision in the light of the vote when they come of



the Government's brilliant final solution to all social ills. This almost bears comparison with Dean Swift's "Modest Proposal" — that the starving Irish poor could eat their hungry children.

Has not the Government slashed unemployment by declaring that unemployed school-leavers shall not be called unemployed and thus not appear in unemployment statistics? And Mrs Thatcher could control our turbulent youngsters by refusing them age. No-one could argue that

school-leavers were ever used to such a troublesome privilege.

But the most delightful solution of all concerns what to do about Mrs Thatcher: we can allow her to go back to what she was used to: greengrocery in Grantham, there to develop further the shady Grantham school of economic and social theory.

Ave Maggie, morituri te salutant! Yours etc, A. Cameron, Corbach, Inverness-shire.

Hospital districts that should tend their own patch

Sir,—I welcome your report (January 30) on the problems experienced by patients needing emergency treatment within London. However, I write to correct some wrong impressions given in the report itself and in one of the published letters on this subject.

The major thrust of my report on the Emergency Bed Service was that individual districts could (and should) better manage emergency admission arrangements within their patch. The problems experienced by many GPs highlight the fact that improvements are

needed in many districts. Rather than simply bemoan the passing of hospital acute sector beds within London, I hope that the new district general managers will give urgent attention to their emergency admission arrangements.

Having more available beds does not solve such problems as the delay getting through hospital switchboards, or the inability of the on-call team to accept their catchment area responsibility for referred patients.

Clearly if the hospital service is running more efficiently now than ten years

ago, there will be less "slack" to cope with sudden changes in demand. However, the "crisis" of two weeks ago was resolved very quickly with the request to slow down non-urgent admissions. In my opinion, if the bed stock is well managed it should be within a district's capability to deal with problems when they arise.

In Mr Taylor's letter (February 1) I am quoted as saying that the average GP trying to obtain emergency admission for a patient is likely to experience longer delays than a case referred by the Emergency Bed Ser-

vice. On current evidence we do not know whether this is so and it is now my view that it is very unlikely.

The more beds available the more will be used, and so the acute sector will consume greater resources. I would wholeheartedly support a larger "cake" for the NHS, but would echo Mr Anderson's point (letters, February 1) in his plea not to let us be deflected from a genuine increase in the size of the "pieces of cake" distributed to the Cinderella services.—Yours faithfully, Barry Evans, London, SE5.

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If the answer lies in the soil, we may never know it. The Government has just slashed the soil survey budget by half, writes Anthony Tucker

How workers close to the earth suffer from erosion

IN A gesture of parsimony that seems designed, primarily, to deprive the nation of a sound scientific base for the criticism of agricultural policies, the Minister for Agriculture has decided to cut support for the Soil Survey of England and Wales by 50 per cent next year and to offer no guarantee of support for the following years.

This "aperçu adjustment" that at a time of economic stringency seems indistinguishable from an axe, was described by Mr Jopling, the Minister, as "an opportunity for the Soil Survey to explore the possibility of alternative sources of income". Scientists of the survey describe the cut as bewildering and catastrophic.

Currently the major task of

the survey, which has completed a small-scale soil quality map of the country which matches that produced by the Geological Survey, is to complete a field-by-field survey for the 150,000 national map very recently given top priority rating by the Joint Ministry of Agriculture/Agriculture and Food Research Council committee.

As a high priority operation the large-scale map was commissioned by the Ministry of Agriculture for completion by the early 1990s. It is an essential basis for detailed observation of changes wrought on land by agricultural policy and practice, and for the assessment of optimum land use as national strategy changes with experi-

ence and with international trends.

In particular the present shifts of EEC policy are toward low-input farming which, necessarily within this economic context, means that only the most stable and highest yielding lands are suitable for profitable farming. This trend is opposite to that which has been pursued in Britain since the war and which, with irreversible and damaging effects on unsuitable soils, is still being pursued by agribusiness and speculators. Reliable soil mapping in high detail is a key essential for reasoned change.

Central to pressures for the change of policy are massive increases in soil erosion, the

destruction of habitats in regions where soils are unsuitable for high-yield agricultural use, serious contamination of surface waters by agricultural chemicals and the insidious reduction of the country's long-term agricultural productivity by abuse of the prime resource.

Backed by the economic absurdity of agricultural production in Britain in particular to meet its obligations under international agreements for the protection of wetland habitats, the scene is set, not for conflict between agricultural and environmental interests, but for policy changes that will for the foreseeable future resolve the conflict.

Much of the soundly based

information on the effects of agricultural policy on land has come, over the past two decades, from the Soil Survey whose scientific findings have sometimes been seen to be in conflict with Departmental perception. Cynics within the survey comment wryly, that the die-hard policy-makers within MAFF and the Cabinet Office "do not want to be confused by scientific realities".

Only in the past year have there been signs that the concern about the damaging effects of agricultural policy, long perceived by the Department of the Environment, has penetrated the obsolescent battlements of the Ministry of Agriculture. Indeed one of the most optimistic signals of

the past year was the personal intervention of Mrs Thatcher on the side of Environment in halting the incredibly destructive pursuit of wetland drainage for quick-buck agricultural purposes.

Those who believe that, behind the Whitehall facade, action and reaction operate in a logical way, might see the attempted destruction of the Soil Survey as some sort of revenge for that embarrassment. It is Soil Survey research, which, over the years, has revealed the devastating instability of drained areas.

The cut announced by Mr Jopling will reduce the Soil Survey's income from £1.7 million this year to well under £1 million next year. At

any other time in the nation's history an enforced search for money from elsewhere—the Department of the Environment, for example, or even from agribusiness if that industry has any real interest in the long-term health of its primary resource—might well be seen as a blessing, for it would cleanly separate the Soil Survey from the Department whose policies it most affects. This, as the Haldane Principle keeps reminding us, is the healthiest course as long as the independent research is properly supported in the nation's interest and given freedom of publication.

MAFF's axe, in the present context where guns have high priority over butter (along a pathway whose historical pre-

cedents will make many people very sick), may mean the abandonment of the central scientific role of the Soil Survey. There is some pressure in the House of Commons for the transfer of Soil Survey finance from Agriculture to the inter-departmental committee so that an ad-hoc arrangement for its survival can be made.

But if the Soil Survey is not supported in a way that will provide a proper basis for long-term assessment of agricultural health, then the Government can be squarely condemned for failure of essential husbandry. Such a failure is not vindictive, it is downright neglectful and stupid. For a paper saving of under £1 million a year it seems amazingly inept.



Little and Large: "The earth's rotation may seem interminably long to a shrew and insignificantly short to a busy elephant"



Are things greater than the sum of their parts? John Gribbin reports

Living truths and dead cats

DOES A tree exist when nobody is looking at it? The old philosophical saw might be in need of reviving, in the light of experiments now being carried out to test whether the world of our senses — the macroscopic world — can be justified by adding up all of the physical effects of the tiny particles that make up the submicroscopic world.

Most of us probably including most physicists — think of those subatomic particles as little hard billiard balls, bouncing around and interacting with one another. But the physicists also know, and have lately been trying to explain to non-physicists, that those "particles" are better described, mathematically, as a strange mixture of particle and wave, neither fish nor fowl.

The maths that describes their strange behaviour is quantum mechanics. And while quantum mechanics certainly works, it has certainly not made any predictions about the behaviour of atoms that can be tested and verified (and, incidentally, enables scientists to build lasers and solid state computers, to explain the workings of DNA and construct hydrogen bombs). It runs very much against the grain of commonsense.

Measure the position of an electron, say, and quantum theory will tell you the probability that next time you look for the electron you will find it where you are looking. The probability may be quite high, but it is never 100 per cent. Quantum mechanics says that any electron just might turn up anywhere in the universe, next time you look for it. And it doesn't tell you where it is above what the electron is "doing" when you are not looking at it.

The concept is so bizarre that even the founding fathers of quantum theory balked at it. Albert Einstein made his famous remark, "I cannot believe that God plays dice with the universe", and Erwin Schrodinger, an Austrian-born physicist who developed the particularly useful equation for describing how electrons behave in atoms, sought to cut the probability interpretation of the equation down to size with an absurd example.

Imagine a cat in a box, said Schrodinger, in which there is a device which, if triggered, will kill the cat. Arrange things so that the device is triggered if a geiger counter inside the box records the decay of a radioactive sample. Radioactive decay is one of the things governed by probability, according to quantum physics, so it is feasible, in principle, to wait exactly long enough for there to be a 50/50 chance that the radioactive decay has occurred. Now what is the state of the cat in the box before we open the lid to take a look?

Commonsense says either the radioactive decay has happened, and the cat is dead, or it didn't, and the cat is alive. Quantum physics says that both states exist with equal probability, until you take a look. The cat exists in limbo, neither dead nor alive, until somebody notices it.

Schrodinger thought this was so ludicrous that it proved there must be a flaw in quantum theory. But as the decades went by every test at the particle level showed that

quantum physics works (and all those lasers, computers, digital watches and so on built on quantum principles continue to work). Physicists have largely ignored the problem, leaving it to the philosophers to debate.

But they can do so no longer, for a new generation of physics experiments is beginning to show the paradoxical quantum behaviour not just at the sub-microscopic level but for objects big enough to see with our own eyes.

The objects are called superconducting quantum interference devices, or SQUIDS. In one form, developed by Terry Clark and colleagues at the University of Sussex, they are little rings of superconducting material, half a centimetre across. Clark has described in *Futures* how such a little ring can be made to behave like a single quantum particle.

Now, Terry Leggett of the University of Illinois has pointed out that SQUIDS can be used to test the paradoxical Schrodinger's cat behaviour of quantum objects. In particular, if a magnetic field is trapped inside a SQUID ring, then the way the field leaks away ought to obey exactly the same probabilistic rules as the radioactive decay which lies at the heart of the cat "paradox". In a recent paper in the journal *Contemporary Physics* (vol. 25, no. 6, page 583), Leggett says that some experiments already show the quantum behaviour, and that the question of whether such a system exactly obeys the quantum rules should be clarified in the next year or so.

If the theory agrees with the quantum maths, they will show that real physical systems do indeed exist in states which are a combination of different quantum states. This is what quantum theory predicts. And although a SQUID is still a far cry from a cat, confirmation of the prediction would imply, more strongly than before, that Schrodinger's hypothetical cat is also in a combination of states, both dead and alive at the same time. Quantum physicists would be happy; philosophers would have a field day, and the rest of us would have a headache.

But what if the experiments, carried out with great care and checked all along the way, show that the SQUIDS only exist in one quantum state or another, never in a combined state? Such a conclusion could undermine the foundations of quantum theory. It would imply that the behaviour of things we can see and feel cannot, after all, be explained by adding together the behaviour of the fundamental particles (or waves) we cannot see. For more than 100 years, science has operated on the assumption that if we understand the fundamental building blocks of matter (be they atoms, or quarks, or whatever) then we will understand everything; that the cat paradox fails, then the implication is that just by putting a lot of simple things together new laws come into play, that complex systems really are greater than the sum of their parts.

Dr John Gribbin is the author of *In Search of Schrodinger's Cat*, published by Wildwood House.

ment should erwagon

Size counts. It's just that the smaller you are, the quicker you have to count. Robert Temple on the elephant, the shrew and the lung power of the canary

More weight, less speed

IF MAN were "normal", he would live only 27 years, have a brain one sixth the size of the brain he has now and have a world population not exceeding five hundred million. These are the conclusions of a relatively new science called allometry, which is the science of the size of living creatures. The word was coined as long ago as 1896, but apart from a few exceptional scientists like the late Sir Julian Huxley, allometry received very little attention until recent years.

William A. Calder, an American professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Arizona, has just published the first book bringing together the results of allometric studies for every conceivable bird and mammal (*Size, Function and Life History*, Harvard University Press, £14.50). The book is an enormous intellectual vista constructed from what had until now been separate collections of data, piled on top of one another and seen through, they reveal a scene as challenging as any panoramic view.

Calder himself is full of enthusiasm, saying: "This is an exciting time for the study of allometry, somewhat analogous to when the East and

West crews building the first transcontinental railroad could dimly see each other in the distance; for we are beginning to see connections."

Allometry promises to make possible a new "conceptual integration" in biology, and especially to provide "a quantitative framework of basic principles that relate ecology and physiology". Many of the results are surprising, Calder says, for instance, that allometry has "opened the mysteries of eggshell function". Through allometry calculations, we now know that an egg does not weigh most just before hatching. By the time it hatches, an egg has lost 15 per cent of its total mass by water vapour exiting through pores in the shell, creating an air cell at the large end of the egg. Eggs also breathe; they take in 105 millilitres of oxygen per gram regardless of size through their shells.

One of the key ideas emerging from allometry, that different-sized creatures live at different rates. The size of the planet and its gravitational force are constant, so are the alternation of day and night within the limits of longest and shortest day at the different latitudes. In the midst of these constants, crea-

tures exist at greater and larger sizes, enjoying their respective advantages and disadvantages.

Calder refers to the passage of time for the planet as "geotime" and "absolute time". But each creature has its own private "physiological time" — smaller creatures having faster time rates and living shorter lives. Calder says: "The smallest land mammal is living about 32 times as fast as the largest. Thus the earth's rotation may seem interminably long to a shrew and insignificantly short to a busy elephant."

But despite the difference in importance to each animal, the elephant and the shrew both have to come to terms with the half-day during which feeding may not be possible, unless one becomes a nocturnal feeder. Small animals are so keen to "save time" and optimise the use of their shorter lifetimes for other things than travel that they climb hills at steeper angles.

Allometry predicted this, so studies were done in labs, making different-sized animals climb slopes of 15 degrees. It was found that mice needed only 23.5 per cent more energy to run up the slope than on the level,

whereas chimpanzees needed 189 per cent more. (Extrapolating to an animal weighing 1000 kg, there would be a need for 630 per cent more energy.)

This led zoologists to study 130 trails of wild animals and they confirmed that in the wild, small animals do indeed take steeper routes up hills. This is one of many discoveries that might never have been made without allometry, and as Calder says, "demonstrates the relevance of the laboratory pattern to behaviour in the wild."

Calder pushes allometry as one means of overcoming the isolation of disciplines in biology (which has led to such under-emphasis and misunderstanding of the importance of body size in function and life history). Allometry manages to apply numbers to biology, something which has never been easy. It is widely acknowledged that biology lags far behind physics as a precise science, bringing in more mathematics can help it catch up.

Naturally, this leads to many "strange but true" facts emerging: a canary can sing for 27 seconds on one lungful of air; elephants hear an octave lower than humans but their upper range falls an octave short, and this is

because the highest frequency a mammal can hear is inversely related to the distance between its ears.

Calder has worked out that Gulliver could never have heard the Lilliputians, whose voices would have been seven octaves higher than Gulliver's; the Brobdingnagians would have had voices too low to be audible either. Also, Swift's calculations for Gulliver's food requirements were wrong: the Lilliputians fed him only 16 per cent of his real food requirement calculated from allometry.

Did you know that bats cannot hear owls? That a mouse's squeak doesn't travel far, but then neither does the mouse, so that it doesn't matter? That if a vole wanted to migrate, it could only travel 81 km before dropping with exhaustion? That it takes less energy to move one unit of mass one unit of distance for larger animals than smaller? That the heaviest creature on earth which can fly is the trumpeter swan, at 12.5 kg? That the shrew eats its own mass in food every day, but a puma does so in 12.3 days? These are revealed by allometry, as well as promising to provide for the first time an answer to the question "How do birds fly?"

If you are interested in how

long a creature will live, its life is normally computed to last 0.61 times the time it takes to achieve 98 per cent of adult mass, or 15.5 times that needed to reach sexual maturity. This might indicate longer lives for late developers. Also, the average lifetime of a terrestrial mammal is 200 million resting breaths, and the heart in a resting mammal beats 4.5 times per breath, regardless of body size.

Where does man fit into all this? The average body mass of a man is 70 kilograms, and agreeably with allometry, the human being generates on average 83 watts of power (what is called "basal metabolism"), rising to 20 times that when engaged in violent exertion. But beyond that, man has an exceptional, consuming 100 times the energy he generates bodily.

His brain, lifespan, and population, far exceed the predictions of allometry, as already mentioned. We have six times the brain and nine times the population that we should, and we live three times longer. But then, even if we defy allometry, we have the undeniable special privilege of being able to say that we did, after all, invent it.

The vicar's schoolgirls who led the way through the cornfield

Thomas Kirkman posed a hypothetical problem in 1847 and modern researchers are still grateful to him. Lindsay Paterson explains

THE tale is convoluted, but it illustrates how the solutions of mathematical recreation can sometimes be useful to scientists. The Reverend Thomas Kirkman was an amateur mathematician, a Fellow of the Royal Society and a member of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. He was in charge of 15 schoolgirls, and that you have to take

them all out for a walk on each day of the week. Suppose also that they have to walk three abreast, and that to forestall boredom no girl is to have any other as a companion in these groups of three more than once in the week. (It's dark, I know, but that's how do you arrange it?)

The answer is not difficult to try for yourself. I am mainly concerned with some surprising extensions of it to experiments with agricultural crops. First let's translate this problem into something more realistic. Suppose I have to set up 15 varieties of wheat, and that I have seven blocks of land each divided into five beds, each to be planted with the seed of a single variety. For convenience of sowing

and harvesting, I want each block to contain exactly one plot of each variety.

Moreover, I also want each pair of varieties to appear in the same bed somewhere, because comparing varieties on plots in the same bed is more accurate than comparing plots in different beds.

Clearly a solution of Kirkman's problem can be translated into a solution of this agricultural one: just replace girls with varieties, days with blocks, and groups of three with beds. There is only one slight difference. Kirkman wanted to keep his girls apart as much as possible, whereas the agricultural experimenter wants to have varieties in the same bed as frequently as possible. Mathematically, however, these aims coincide, for if one pair of varieties were to appear in more than

one bed, then some other pair would not appear in any bed at all.

Kirkman's problem was influential in the mathematical subject known as combinatorics, which is the study of how whole numbers (like 1 to 15) can be combined together into patterns. And combinatorics has proved useful in designing experiments, especially in agriculture.

The solution is rarely as straightforward as in Kirkman's relatively simple example. Each year several dozen experiments with upwards of 100 varieties of wheat are conducted throughout the United Kingdom by the Ministry of Agriculture. The mathematical difficulties are caused by there being so many varieties. Each variety is usually at an early stage

in its breeding programme, and so the experimenter has enough seed to sow only perhaps four plots with it in each trial. Thus the trial uses four blocks of land, since as before each variety is to appear once in a block. The beds still have to contain a small number of plots, no more than about six or seven: anything bigger would lose the advantage of being relatively homogeneous in fertility. Obviously, then, not all pairs of the 100 varieties can appear somewhere in the same experiment in the same bed.

The best thing to do in these circumstances has been the subject of a great deal of research, much of which was originated in the 1930s by the geneticist Sir R. A. Fisher and the statistician Dr F. Yates working at Rothamsted

Experimental Station in Hertfordshire. More recently, at the Agricultural and Food Research Council's Unit of Statistics in Edinburgh, we have extended their pioneering work by generalising Kirkman's ideas, in two stages.

Think of two plots in the same bed as being at distance one apart. This is a mathematical simplification of the physical distances; it makes the problem more tractable. Then the direct analogy of Kirkman's solution was to have all pairs of varieties at distance one from each other. The first generalisation is to try to have as many pairs as possible at distance one. This principle has been used for about ten years in the conduct of variety trials, and has been shown by Dr H. D. Patterson and Mr E. A. Hunter of the

AFRC Unit of Statistics to have resulted in an improvement of 30 per cent in efficiency.

That means, roughly, that the same amount of information can be obtained with only 70 per cent of the land that would be needed if this kind of design were not used and the varieties merely planted haphazardly in the four blocks.

We have recently developed a further generalisation, which we hope will lead to a further improvement in efficiency in very large trials of several hundred varieties. We now look also at pairs which do not appear anywhere in the same bed. The aim is to have such pairs at distance two apart, in this sense: variety number one would appear in the same bed as variety two, which in

turn would appear elsewhere in the experiment in the same bed as variety three; one and three would then be at distance two apart. Sometimes the trial is too big even to have each pair of varieties at most two apart, and we have to try for distance three (or more) as well.

The details of how we have implemented these principles in a computer program are too intricate to give here. What matters for the agricultural scientist is that useful plans for large experiments can now be produced at the touch of a button. We have come a long way from the Rev Thomas Kirkman and his schoolgirls.

Dr Lindsay Paterson is with the Statistics Unit of the Agricultural and Food Research Council, University of Edinburgh.

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Selling Sidekick: a simple solution

At last, the electronic notepad and pencil that even the computer professionals still have to use. Jack Schofield samples Sidekick

Getting organised

OWNING a computer makes you feel guilty about having a cluttered desk. Surely with hundreds or even thousands of pounds-worth of the latest electronic gadgetry to hand, you should not still be jotting notes, phone numbers and memos on the backs of old envelopes?

Many companies offer solutions costing from £1500 to £50,000 - from KIL's One Per Desk to multi-tasking dinosaurs running Unix. But perhaps all you really need is a program called Sidekick, which costs only £50.

The problem with micros is that usually they do one thing at a time. If you want to look up a phone number while you're using the word processor, this means saving your text, quitting the word processor, changing to the phone book program, looking up the number... then repeating the whole routine to get back to where you were before.

So even with a micro you tend to stick to the systems that work - like a notepad and pencil handy, a pocket calculator, a diary, an address book, a calendar and all the other accoutrements of office life. Hence that messy, disorganised desk.

So microcomputer software houses decided to put almost every program you wanted on one or two discs, and "integrated software" was born. Most provide a word processor, a spreadsheet, a database, business graphics and sometimes a communications program in one package at a cost of around £400 to £600. Examples include Open Access, Framework, Symphony, Context MHA, Electric Desk, Ability and Ovation.

There are three problems. First, most of these packages do only one or two things really well, not five or six. Second, some are so big and have such massive manuals it puts you off learning them. Third, using some of them is virtually as complicated as using half a dozen different packages, as before.

Most users therefore decided that they didn't want an integrated package after all. What they wanted was some way of integrating the programs they already knew - WordStar, dBase II, Visi-Calc or Multiplan.

So the software houses produced "integrated environments" which enable you to run several different packages at once. Examples include Digital Research's Concurrent DOS, Quarterdeck's Desq, Microsoft's Windows and IBM's TopView (the last two have been demonstrated but have yet to be delivered).

Again there are problems. You have to pay for all the individual packages plus the operating system or environment manager, and the whole

conglomeration needs a lot of memory to run it. Desq, for example, needs 512K of RAM (random access memory) and a hard disc, which is not exactly a cheap option.

Sidekick, from Borland International, is a new, cheap and delightfully simple solution to the same problem. It comprises a small program that you load before you start work. It then hands back control of the micro, so you can load your application program - WordStar, Multiplan, Lotus 1-2-3 or whatever. While you are running this, Sidekick hides away in RAM so you don't know it's there. When you need it you just hit two keys - either both shift keys, or Ctrl+Alt - and Sidekick's menu pops up instantly in a window in the middle of the screen. Hit Esc and it's gone again.

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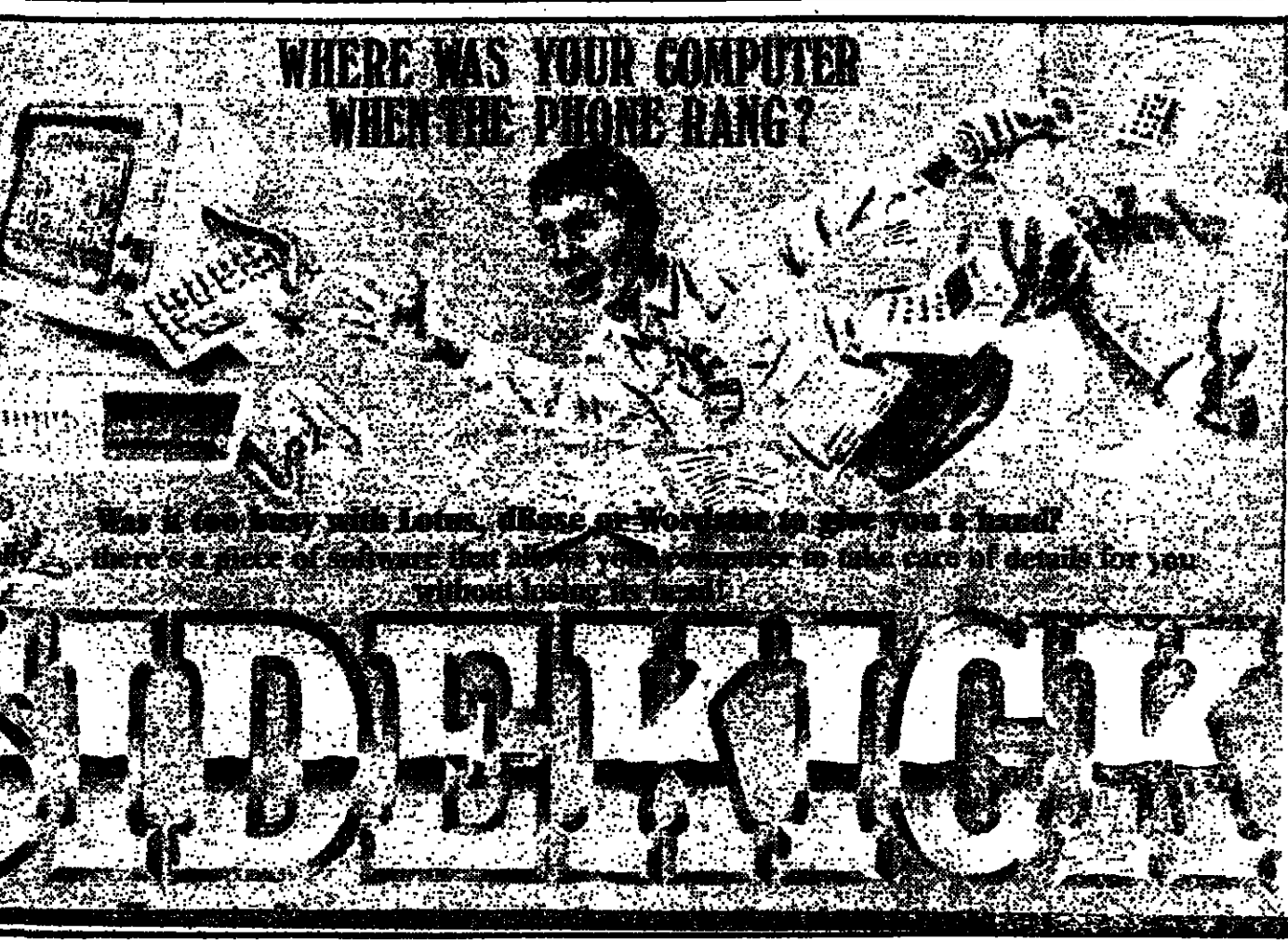
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If Electronic Arts doesn't, others will. The requirements of a good desk organiser - it must be cheap, fast, colourful, well packaged, easy to learn and simple to use - put it within the range of most games software houses, and as anyone who tries Sidekick will appreciate, the potential sales run into millions.

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Sidekick was not written to sell but by a bunch of programmers who needed it - hence the ASCII table, which is less than useful to most

businessmen. Several firms have now produced similar programs to organise the executive's desk. Three work just like Sidekick: Spotlight, PopUps and Higgins.

Spotlight, from Software Associates, offers a notepad, appointment book, phone book, calendar, index card file and DOS files (so you can format discs and move files without going back to the disc operating system, DOS). PopUps, from Bellsoft in Washington, provides the same utilities as Sidekick plus communications, and alarm clock and a window into the disc operating system (DOS).

Higgins, a \$395 office assistant from Conetic Software, offers a notepad, appointment calculator, things-to-do list, name and address file, phone directory, calculator and alarm clock. Higgins's alarm sounds the opening notes of Beethoven's Fifth and it chimes the hours like Westminster.

Spotlight has more functions than Sidekick, but Spotlight's utilities are not available instantly. You call them up then have to wait while they are loaded from disc - which is not nearly as much fun.

An extension of the Sidekick/Spotlight idea is the electronic desktop program. Instead of being the subsidiary, this is the dominant

program, but it also allows you to run an application at the same time. Examples are The Desk Organizer and QED+, the Quantec Executive Desktop.

The Desk Organizer, from Warner Software, provides similar facilities to Sidekick and Spotlight, but with more powerful capabilities in a more integrated package. Instead of lurking somewhere in RAM, Desk Organizer takes over the whole micro: you load either MS-DOS or CP/M-86 into it, instead of the other way around.

QED+, from Quantec Software, is the only British contender. It provides an appointments diary, calendar, address book, filing system, word processor, calculator, project planner and phone dialler. You can also add your own programs to the menu - WordStar, Lotus 1-2-3 etc - so that you can call them from within QED+.

What lets QED+ down is the totally inappropriate manual which is a 150-page binder full of computerese. It takes half an hour to get the program installed, throws you into some configuration rubbish about labels, printing, and you end up with brain-ache before you've even started. Someone at Quantec should see how it ought to be done. Even Sidekick's user guide is better - plus it has a friendly

colour cartoon of an old prospector with red braces and a battered hat, on the cover. The thing about Sidekick is that you can load it, understand it and start using it within ten minutes. And instead of being work, it's fun. There is very little future for new software that does not fulfil these basic requirements.

All the programs mentioned so far have one major drawback: they run only on the IBM PC and compatibles. However, Sidekick's huge success suggests versions will soon be available for other machines running MS-DOS and CP/M, and perhaps eventually for home micros.

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Chief Executive

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£25,000
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upon Tyne

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The Chief Executive will establish and manage the Centre, leading a small specialist team to promote and project manage the effective transfer of technology. The post demands imaginative flair tempered with sound business judgement to identify new commercial opportunities. An essential requirement is the ability to work with and develop confidence within companies and the academic community.



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Application forms, to be received by 28th February 1985, are obtainable from:

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For enquiries phone Farnham Common 2281

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The post will be based at Ettrick Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, initially, and will be under the direction of the Board's Architect Planner from Hillmorton.

Please write for an application form to the Personnel Manager (South), British Waterways Board, Willow Grange, Church Road, Watford WD1 3QA, quoting reference number 22/26.

Closing date: 22nd February 1985.



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Staffordshire
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Closing date: 22nd February, 1985.

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QUALIFICATIONS: 1st or 2nd class honours degree in Food Technology, Food Science, Applied Biochemistry or equivalent with preferably a PhD. At least four years post qualifying experience in research and experience of the poultry industry and/or commercial meat products manufacture or equivalent experience with non-contributory pension scheme.

Application forms, quoting reference 85/1 to Personnel Officer, Agricultural and Food Research Council Meat Research Institute, Langford, Bristol BS18 7DY, telephone: Churchill (0634) 828661

GRADUATE APPOINTMENTS

In certain well-defined areas demand for research students is picking up. But graduates with good degrees should look before they leap. Audrey Segal reports

Developing a perfect mousse

FINAL YEAR students on course for a good degree this summer may well be thinking of trying to get into research, or research and development. But the tightening of government science budgets, and current low levels of industrial investment, must make them wonder whether they have any chance. What are the opportunities, and what kind of work can they expect to get, even with a PhD?

There will be very few vacancies for permanent research-cum-teaching posts in universities or polytechnics for the foreseeable future, and then only in disciplines qualifying for "new blood" money. The universities' own problems of funding are being compounded by similar financial stringencies in the state-funded research councils. The Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC) is having to reject increasing numbers of even the top flight, alpha-rated grant applications from universities and polytechnics, which also means fewer short-term contract jobs.

"hesitated" when the recession was at its worst, spending is now rising again (£250 millions this year) and so recruitment for R&D is also up — to a projected 60 jobs in 1985. Most other companies, even the largest, recruit in rather smaller numbers.

Recruiters from all sectors are fighting for their share of the "shortage" skills — the electronics / computer / software engineers, computer specialists, mechanical engineers, some kinds of mathematicians. Physicists, especially those whose courses included a substantial electronics element, stand to gain from the shortages of electronics specialists. Only a proportion of the jobs on offer are in R&D, of course, but people with good degrees in shortage subjects will obviously be able to pick and choose.

An image at odds with the real world

Demand for chemists and all physicists also appears to have recovered. One pharmaceutical company even claims it cannot find the chemists it wants for R&D. There is always a need for materials specialists (the information technology revolution is based on novel materials like silicon, for example) and materials scientists, who may have read materials science technology, metallurgy, ceramics, chemistry, or physics.

But in spite of all the effort going into biotechnology, the number of bioscience research jobs has not increased much — and chemists, biochemists, and microbiologists are employed rather than biologists, botanists, or zoologists. Biotechnology's urgent demand, in fact, is for process/chemical engineers who can turn bioscience discoveries into new industrial processes, which is more development and design than R&D. Not many other industries employ traditional biologists, zoologists, or botanists in research, although sectors like pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, and food are taking biochemists and microbiologists. Even the scientific civil service sets up to 200 applications for every vacancy for a biological scientist.

In the environmental sciences, the SERC is likely to earmark more resources for areas which use physical and physico-chemical scientists than ecologists, conservationists, biologists, botanists, or even geologists. R&D opportunities for them in industry are minimal.

But what kind of job can graduates expect today? After three to six years at university, young scientists often have an image of research work which is at odds with what goes on in the real world of the industry. Engineers and technologists are increasingly being taught of the constraints they will meet, and learning through collaborative project work what industry's problems are.

Research, outside the academic world, has to work for the organisation. As one somewhat disillusioned researcher put it, R&D in industry is more often than not research with a small r and development with a big D. R&D is expensive. Only in investment in basic research, products on scientific innovation — science-based industries such as chemicals, which includes drugs — is any of it likely to be as pure and exploratory as the pure science research which goes on in universities.

Even major companies like ICI with the heaviest R&D programmes have only small groups working on new scientific discoveries. High-tech often does not mean heavy investment in basic research, except perhaps on materials. Aerospace is a good example — the amount of real research that firms do is quite small, and the number of true research workers employed minimal, while development is much more extensive.

Companies capable of supporting major research programmes are often multinational or can rationalise their R&D effort on a world-wide basis. One major US-owned pharmaceutical firm agreed that all their brainstorming research and new discovery work is done in the States — their 70 scientists in the UK are all doing more routine, line development, working on different forms of drug delivery and so on. Firms in many industries buy in new systems and production equipment, products and new components — even research results — sometimes from abroad — to save on their own R&D costs, leaving their own staff little but routine testing. Some better R&D jobs are to be found in a growing number of smaller, specialist, contract R&D organisations and consultancies working for larger firms.

The scientific civil service — which does R&D across the entire spectrum from very speculative to very practical — is offering more opportunities than most. But that means

accepting salaries which aren't now competitive with those industry is offering — and over half the R&D in government establishments these days is in defence.

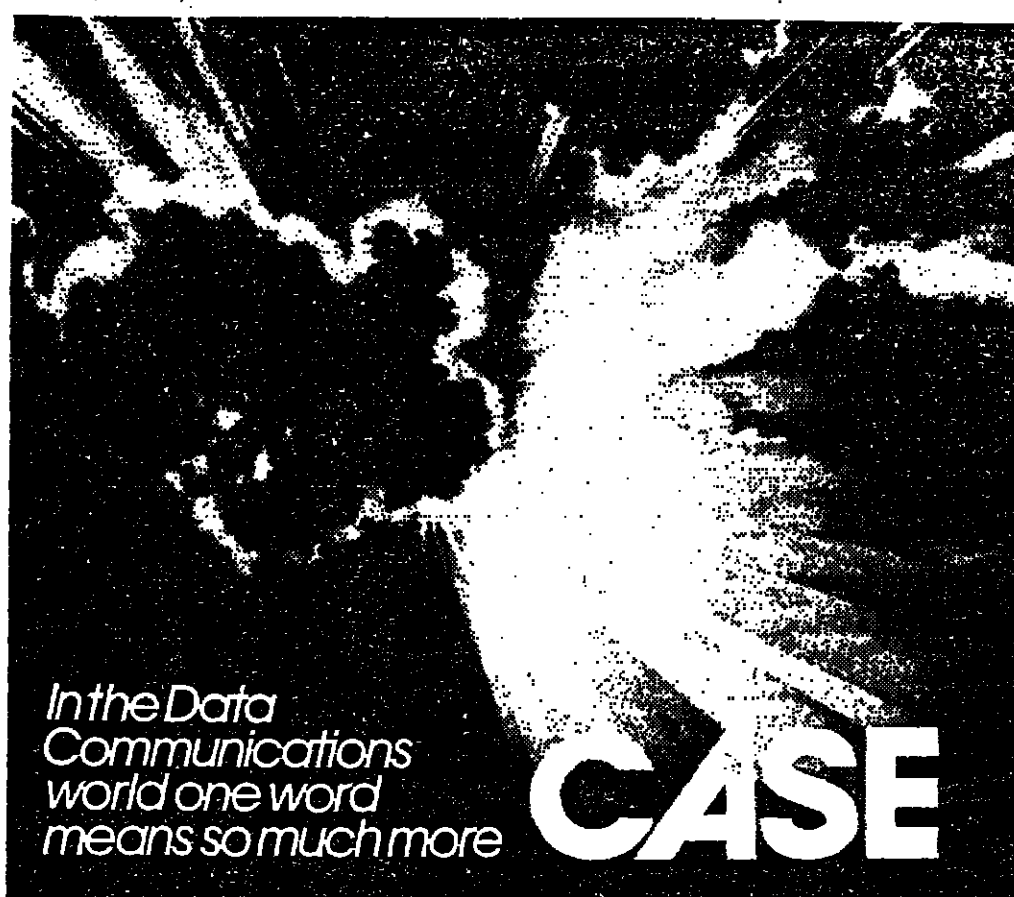
Much development work in industry can be fairly routine — and some people are going to have to accept it. There are companies where the intellectual content of what is called R&D is low and is really something like practical trouble-shooting for production. Graduates should make sure they know what they want and see they understand exactly what kind of work is being offered before committing themselves.

In the very high-tech areas such as defence, electronics, computing, communications, with large R&D budgets and programmes, there has to be development work which is every bit as demanding as anyone would want. But for some people it may be equally challenging to work on developing products, equipment, or processes for a firm in older sectors such as machine tools, the foundry, or clothing industries. Is there real job satisfaction in developing another exotic dessert for the supermarket freezer or further automating the automated bakery equipment? Think it through properly. Graduates who do not want to be trapped in an R&D job which does not come up to expectations should check out the firm for themselves.

Work part of the time in industry

For the cautious who would like to look before they leap, and perhaps be better prepared for what is needed, it is worth exploring the possibilities of working on a collaborative university — or polytechnic — industry project. One of several offered by SERC is a Co-operative Award in Science and Engineering (CASE), lasting between one and three years, gives students the chance to work part of the time in industry on a good, normally research-orientated, scientific problem to which a firm really needs a solution. Some 375 awards are offered each year and are rarely all taken up. ICI currently has 220 CASE students, and some apply for and get permanent posts.

Otherwise, is a higher degree essential? Increasingly so for scientists, although one division of ICI is still recruiting around 30 per cent with only first degree to start on less advanced work. Study time is often given.



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Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering

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Appointments continue on page 25

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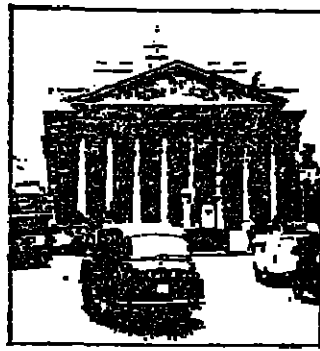
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Where cash is concerned, the money markets don't care much about its origins



NOTEBOOK

Edited by
Hamish McRae

LIKE SOME Cossack Fifth Cavalry, the Russians are riding to the rescue of the pound.

We will have to wait for the markets to make their own mind, but it looks very much as though a cut

in Soviet oil exports will be just what Opec has been praying for to beef up the oil price over the next couple of months.

Yesterday the Soviets announced that they would be cutting February oil exports to Germany, their biggest European customer. This follows an earlier and less significant cut in shipments to Austria. The reason: bad weather, or rather even worse-than-expected weather.

To see the significance of this it is worth going through some slightly tedious arithmetic on the balance of oil supplies to the West. According to the IEA in Paris, demand in the non-Communist world this quarter is some 48.6 million barrels a day. Subtract Opec production which is 16 mbd. (it is producing less than that at the moment.) Subtract non-Communist production (US, Mexico, ourselves, etc) of 25.3 mbd, and what is left is 6.7 mbd, and you are left

with a gap of 6.4 mbd. Now up to now that gap has been filled by Communist exports of 1.8 mbd net, cheating by Opec, and running down stocks. But obviously the Communist contribution is highly significant: they are covering over a quarter of the gap.

Indeed a back-of-an-envelope calculation would suggest that this particular cut is of similar significance to the increase oil burn of the British power stations, thanks to the coal strike.

Looking further ahead, the medium-term outlook for oil prices looks much weaker: better weather, an ending of the coal strike, and the end of US strategic stocks will combine to depress oil prices in the summer.

But if you are looking for short-term help for the oil price and hence for the pound, here it is. The Financial Markets of the world do not pay attention to political ideology, and help comes

sometimes from the most unlikely quarter.

Justice denied

NAMES on the PCW syndicate have a right to feel sore at the way justice is likely to work in the case of the syndicate's former underwriters, who are alleged to have spirited some £30 million of funds away to offshore havens.

The disciplinary committee at Lloyd's has been vigorous in handing out punishments to the former underwriters but, sadly, is unable to do anything about actually putting those punishments into force. The case of Peter Dixon, the former PCW chairman, is the most telling.

Although the committee's findings have yet to go before the full Council, it has ruled that Mr Dixon be fined £1 million for his part in the scandal, pay £200,000 costs, and be expelled for life from the market.

Alas, Mr Dixon resides in Marbella.

Due to Mr Dixon's absence overseas Lloyd's will be able with certainty to carry out only one of its retributions: expulsion. Of course, Lloyd's is exploring other ways of trying to penalise Mr Dixon. These could include freezing the 25 per cent deposit which all Lloyd's members have to place with the market, and seizing any property or assets which he may still own in the UK.

Mr Dixon did not turn up at any of the disciplinary hearings, nor is it likely that he will appear to appeal during the 28-day period now open. Even if criminal charges are brought eventually against him, it is unlikely that Lloyd's could enforce its penalties against any who are living in Spain because of the lack of extradition agreements.

Although the Spanish and British are trying to work out some sort of agreement,

any formal deal is some way off.

The problem, put bluntly, is that there are more Brits living in Spain than our authorities would like to see returned to Britain, than there are Spaniards in London in which the Spanish authorities have an interest. We need the deal more than they do.

Few jobs

THE Business Expansion Scheme envisaged as a means of raising risk capital for trading companies which were possibly to be the seed corn of Britain's future. Straight money shuffling, farming leasing and such are all specifically excluded. Actual trading must be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Inland Revenue.

Yesterday in Mayfair, a new company — Mount Street Fine Wine — was launched under the BES to trade and invest in serious wines. This may not be hi-

tech but it does have some sunrise industry hallmarks: expertise, entrepreneurial flair, no dividend and few workers. In this case no workers, at least not to start with: the company will have no employees.

Wasn't the BES about job creation? Well no, actually. The group's advisers had combed the fine print and found that the scheme stressed the venture capital and wealth creation aspects. But it did not mention jobs.

Unwise move

ACORN's fate remains unclear. The founders, Mr Chris Curry and Mr Herman Hauser, have clearly been battling away, and are doing so still, in an attempt to salvage the company they founded seven years ago, and which has brought them very considerable success.

What is clear, though, is the fact that Acorn has been scoring a number of own

goals. Whether you like your merchant bankers, or not, it is extremely unwise to lose them in a crisis. If you could not agree with two City heavyweights, why stay with them so long?

Further, it is plain that Acorn has been highly protected from the very worst realities of life as a home computer supplier by its wonderful contracts with the BBC, and by the Department of Education and Science backing for its schools computer programme. Only one third of its sales are on the really tough home computer high street.

There is little reason to suppose that the entrepreneurs who have brought it to its present plight can, with help, now rescue it. But help in some form or other will surely be forthcoming. Acorn has a highly valuable user network of at least 700,000 people, all keen to use Acorn software, and a largely intact four-year contract with the BBC.

Financial crisis causes micro-computer group to start reorganisation

Acorn shares suspended at 28p

By Maggie Brown

The financial crisis hitting Acorn Computer, finally came to a head yesterday when the Cambridge firm asked for its shares to be temporarily suspended, at a new low of 28p.

A statement later from Acorn, one of Britain's leading home computer firms, said that it was "actively taking steps to reorganise the company's affairs." This was interpreted as likely to lead to widespread job losses on top of the first 30 confirmed yesterday, and reductions in marketing costs, research and development, and sales. This is designed to salvage the Cambridge-based company.

At the same time Acorn confirmed it has changed its financial advisers, Lazards, in favour of much smaller Close

Brothers, who advise Logica, the software company. The switch was done on Logica's advice. Cazenove, most prestigious of the City stockbroking firms, also resigned after Logica parted company with it. The split was due to a fundamental disagreement over a plan of action to rescue Acorn, and is regarded as a severe blow to confidence.

Sir Clive Sinclair, whose home-computer products are direct competitors of Acorn, said yesterday that he might now be forced to abandon plans for a full stock market flotation for Sinclair Research on March 12, as hoped. "In so far as the market will be nervous, it might be the best idea to postpone the float, unfair as it is."

Acorn, now worth £31 million on the stock market after a spectacular crash from £216

million a year ago, is still 90 per cent owned by founders Mr Herman Hauser and Mr Chris Curry.

They were both unavailable for comment at the Cambridge headquarters yesterday, as was Dr Alex Reid, the former British Telecom executive who has been appointed temporary chief executive to help rescue the firm.

The announcements sent waves of jitters through the volatile sector, already counting the cost of worse than planned for Christmas sales, and a rash of receiverships and collapses.

The BBC signed, last July, a new four-year contract with Acorn, under which it would continue to supply its popular computers under the BBC logo. Acorn has an installed "user" base of at least 700,000 in Britain, sold more than 450,000

machines during 1984, and has benefited from the school micro programme, now being withdrawn.

But since the summer it has been in distinct decline: it has lost more than £6 million in a year, and its share price has fallen, especially the US, and sold only 200,000 machines, compared with hopes of 300,000 in the run-up to Christmas, despite a £3.5 million promotion. The home computer market has also been under heavy attack from newcomers, such as Amstrad. Then in January, it was forced to follow Sinclair, and cut the prices of basic computers by £70 to £128.

In the last two weeks it has announced major cutbacks in its dealer networks, and the failure of talks to take over business computer specialists, Torch. It is widely reckoned to



Chris Curry

be top-heavy on research and development, employing 450 people, compared with 150 at Sinclair Research.

Offer for Stylo lapses

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Town Centre Securities was yesterday nursing a further loss on its recent heavy investment in Stylo after Mr John Riblat's British Land company dropped its partial takeover offer for the footwear retailer.

British Land wanted to raise its voting stake in Stylo from the present 4.25 per cent to 29.9 per cent by making a tender offer at a maximum price of 185p a share.

But the group was yesterday forced to concede defeat after attracting acceptances from holders of 6.7 million shares, representing 19 per cent of the voting rights. The tender offer was fiercely opposed by the Stylo chairman, Mr Arnold Ziff, and his board was conditional on acceptances being received in respect of more than 8 million shares.

As the offer lapsed, Stylo shares dropped another 3p to 183p adding to the hefty paper loss incurred by Town Centre earlier this week.

The Leeds-based property group, also chaired by Mr Ziff, has acquired about 2 million Stylo shares during the course of the British Land tender at prices up to 185p, more than double its previous stake in the business.

British Land yesterday dampened stock market suggestions that it might now make a bid for Town Centre, and said it had no immediate plans for its Stylo holding, much of which was acquired at a price of 185p.

The shares are a trade investment," said the company secretary, Mr David Wilson.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CENARGO, the company which won the Falklands airport supply contract, is likely to become the new owner of the state-owned Falmouth Ship Repair yard, the workforce was told yesterday by managing director Mr Dennis Pascoe. His announcement followed a meeting between Cenargo, a shipping and brokerage group, British Shipbuilders, trade union representatives, and Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bankers handling the sale.

TOTAL car sales last month were 156,823 vehicles, 3.1 per cent below the January 1984 level, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders reported yesterday, with imports enjoying a 56.4 per cent share of the market compared with 55.8 per cent last year, while Ford retained its market leadership.

EIGHT university science parks have formed a lobby group — the UK Science Park Association. The founder members are Cambridge, Birmingham (Aston), Edinburgh (Heriot-Watt), Bradford, Manchester, Liverpool, Warwick, and West of Scotland.

TUC spurns 'pay curb for jobs'

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

The government argued yesterday that adoption of a policy of pay restraint would lead to lower UK unemployment but its case, presented in a paper to the National Economic Development Council, was publicly meeting with flatly rejected by the TUC.

At the meeting, Mr Nigel Lawson the Chancellor stressed that if lower pay settlements were negotiated, the government would ensure that adequate monetary growth was

maintained and demand encouraged.

Earlier Mr Lawson insisted that the real growth in the economy was reflected in the higher standard of living enjoyed by those in employment. Real earnings had grown by 10.5 per cent over the past six years, with the bulk of the increase in the past two years.

The Joint Treasury-Department of Employment paper claimed that if real wage increases were held back by one per cent — current growth is about three per cent a year — employment in the whole economy would rise by between 0.5

per cent and one per cent.

The argument fell on deaf ears. The TUC General Secretary, Mr Norman Willis, described the paper as failing to make any valuable contribution to the employment debate. It was the better part of the Government produced such a one-sided story, then it was inevitable that there would be suspicions that its underlying arguments were weak.

The trade unions would be bound to suspect that a government policy of pay restraint would ultimately develop into a policy of real wage cuts. The government argument was scorned equally by Mr

Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees. Mr Lawson's claims of a 10.5 per cent increase in real wages of 10.5 per cent were spurious, as it was the better part of the Government produced such a one-sided story, then it was inevitable that there would be suspicions that its underlying arguments were weak.

How could the union movement be persuaded that the funds released by lower pay settlements would be used to create new jobs, and not just invested overseas, Mr Bickerstaffe asked.

Britannia share deal

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Guinness Peat's move to build up a substantial stake in Britannia Arrow Holdings was taken a stage further yesterday when it reached agreement to buy a block of shares from the London and Manchester group for more than £24 million.

The agreement with London and Manchester comes only a week after Guinness Peat stunned the Britannia board by clinching a £25 million deal to acquire a 23 per cent shareholding from UK Provident.

Guinness Peat — parent company of the merchant bank Guinness Mahon — is acquiring a total of 5 million shares from London and Manchester through a share swap of three new Guinness Peat shares for every two Britannia shares. The same terms as those offered to UK Provident.

With Guinness Peat shares standing at 74p yesterday the terms value each Britannia share at 111p each compared with a stock market price of 100p. Provided Britannia's share price goes up through Guinness Peat will end up with a near 327 per cent stake in Britannia.

Although there was no immediate reaction from the Britannia Arrow camp directors of the fund manager and Singer and Friedlander merchant banking group have already made it clear that they see no advantages in closer co-operation between the two organisations.

Entrad keeps a low profile

By our own Correspondent

The principals behind Entrad Corporation's £124 million bid for Total are a very different breed to those Australians who have established a British presence in recent years.

Arnold Block, Abraham Goldberg and Mark Besen control 75.3 per cent of Entrad's stock. Unlike much of the rest of the world, these are not public figures. Mr Goldberg, the fulcrum on which Entrad's fortune sways, is a man of few words.

He arrived in Australia from Poland in 1948, and went on to build Australia's largest textile and clothing group from small beginnings in a working class suburb of Melbourne. By carefully choosing prime city property he turned cash flow to capital sufficient to create Entrad. From there, the cash flow, always from textiles, has grown and grown.

His office, in Melbourne's most expensive office building, has been the centre of plans which led Entrad to control Bradmill, Australis and Conduits Rilton.

With those interests combined, Entrad achieved dominance in the Australian market. And with the two companies British parentage, Mr Goldberg had a natural path back to Total.

Entrad's annual sales are currently £350 million. £270 million. Total's sales in the year to January 1984 were £387.3 million.

Mr Goldberg arrived in London on Sunday, intending to stay until midweek. There is little to be divined from past tactics. Entrad's intentions have never been transparent.

Asked last August where expansion might lie, Mr Goldberg betrayed as much as he ever had: "We can rule nothing out," he said. "All I can say is we will look at things as they come up."

Total's rejection of the offer was received by Entrad laconically. The Entrad chairman, Mr Arnold Block said: "The group has undergone a huge reconstruction in the past few years. It is anticipated that if the acquisition proceeds it will have a most favourable impact on the overall profitability of the Entrad group and will provide many trading and synergistic advantages to the group."

One characteristic is clear. Entrad's creators do not look for long. The offer for Bradmill was made within a fortnight of the option coming up. The merger was completed within six months, the Courtaulds Hulton business was absorbed within a further six months.

The UK — and Scotland's central plan in particular — already has Europe's biggest collection of microchip production plants.

Intel, despite its reputation, particularly in microprocessors, and despite the British microcomputer boom has delayed European investment. Its current UK operation is essentially only a marketing one. When the company, like so many others, got entangled in the slump, it had to sell a minority stake to IBM.

Role for Rolls in Boeing deal

By Michael Smith

Britain's state-owned aircraft engine maker, Rolls-Royce is being invited to participate in a significant new aircraft building venture from US aerospace giant, Boeing.

Boeing, the world's biggest aircraft maker, is poised to launch a new 100-seater twin-engine jet this year, and is asking Rolls to modify its Tay engine to provide the power.

Boeing vice president, Joseph Sutter is visiting Rolls later today in a bid to persuade the British firm to undertake new investment in the 100-seater category will

the Tay engine. Boeing is also approaching engine building rivals, Pratt & Whitney and General Electric of the US.

The new 100-seater aircraft will be a modified shorter version of the big-selling 737. Boeing says it has been under pressure from its airline customers to launch a 100-seater aircraft and is hoping to announce the first order for a shortened 737 before June.

Development of the shortened 737 will bring Boeing into direct competition with the British Aerospace 146 commuter jet and F28 from Holland's Fokker.

The emergence of Boeing in the 100-seater category will

cause some concern to British Aerospace which has consistently struggled to sell the 146 to world airlines and is a long way from recouping its huge £400 million investment.

Boeing's decision to move into the 100-seater market reflects the giant undertaking's view that the aircraft market at present does not justify a £2 billion investment in a brand new 150-passenger jet.

Instead Boeing is holding off building a new technologically advanced jet to compete with the Airbus A320 until 1992 and offering airline customers variations on its existing range of 737 and 757 jets to fill the 150-seater market.

Intel could set up UK plant

By Peter Large, Technology Correspondent

Intel, the most prestigious of all the Silicon Valley microchip companies, may set up a chip plant on the M4 corridor near to its UK headquarters at Swindon.

Intel is the company where the microprocessor was invented in 1969/70 and it is the only remaining chip giant not to have established a manufacturing centre in Europe. Discussions with the government on the project are still in a preliminary stage.

Meanwhile negotiations are understood to be complete on the proposals of a newer Californian company, LSI Logic, to establish its European manufac-

turing centre in Cwmbran, South Wales. That proposal is likely to create about a thousand jobs eventually.

The deal is now awaiting ministerial approval, because it involves taxpayers' grants. The government has been reluctant to spend money on the project, but British firms have recently intensified their lobbying against public subsidies for foreign companies whose investment here further depletes Britain's inadequate stock of computer-skilled people.

LSI Logic, however, has British venture capital involvement and is run by Wilf Corrigan, a Liverpoolian brain-drainer who became one of the major figures of Silicon Valley

in the 70s. His new company makes gate arrays, a chip speciality gaining in importance, and in which Ferranti is the British — and world — leader.

The UK — and Scotland's central plan in particular — already has Europe's biggest collection of microchip production plants.

Intel, despite its reputation, particularly in microprocessors, and despite the British microcomputer boom has delayed European investment. Its current UK operation is essentially only a marketing one. When the company, like so many others, got entangled in the slump, it had to sell a minority stake to IBM.

Teesside £32m order

A £32 MILLION order to build four cargo vessels was announced by Teesside's Smith's Dock shipyard yesterday. The 15,000-tonne ships, ordered by Cyprus-based companies, which are to be chartered to Cuba, will keep the yard's 1,500 workforce busy until the end of next year.

This comes as a boost for Teesside, which with a 30.1 per cent male unemployment rate, is one of the north east's biggest unemployment blackspots.

Smith's Dock, a British Shipbuilders subsidiary, had a workforce of 3,700 when the industry was nationalised in 1971. Mr Graham Day, the ES chairman, gave the yard a pat on the back for its new success. "It is recognition by the customer of the yard's reputation for high quality vessels consistently delivered on time," he said.

Mr Roger Spence, the yard's managing director, said the order would provide work until the end of next year and would stabilise the workload by providing much-needed continuity of employment.

Dunlop's banks strike deal with predator

By James Elichman, Chemicals Correspondent

Dunlop's hopes of independent survival diminished yesterday when its leading banks struck a secret agreement with its predator, BTR.

The decision was less a betrayal than an attempt by Dunlop's banks, which are owed £435 million, to place a foot firmly in the both warring camps.

BTR has received an assurance that the banks will continue to finance Dunlop even if it falls to BTR and becomes a subsidiary of the aggressive industrial combine. But the banks refused to disclose what concessions they have extracted from BTR in return for their support, and BTR's chairman, Sir Owen Green, was keeping just as quiet.

Dunlop had been hoping that its banks, led by National Westminster, would stick firmly to their original view of BTR's bid terms as "categorically unacceptable." This blunt rejection is widely assumed to have focused on BTR's demand that the banks agree to swap £100 million of their Dunlop debt for BTR's own preference shares as a binding condition of the takeover.

This demand, it is understood, has now been scaled down or withdrawn to open the way for yesterday's agreement.

Both Dunlop and its banks attempted yesterday to portray the agreement with BTR as the "best of all possible worlds" for Dunlop's own independent reconstruction package, and they have further agreed to extend their loan facilities beyond



Sir Owen Green

March 31. The banks fence-sitting, says Dunlop, allow its own shareholders to choose between BTR's "grossly inadequate takeover attempt" and its own recovery plans.

Above all, Dunlop's banks wished to avoid the accusation that they were depriving shareholders of a choice. But by doing a deal with their client's predator, they may also have signalled their preference for a BTR victory and a safe home for their enormous loans. Dunlop said yesterday that it "deplored" that the terms of the banks' agreement with BTR had not been disclosed. But BTR would not be drawn. The stock market took the view that BTR's hand has been strengthened. Dunlop shares fell 2p to 36p while BTR gained 23p to 672p.

CAA raises holiday bonds to £200m

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

Safety bonds for package tour operators are being stepped up by £40 million to £200 million because of fears over fresh holiday company collapses.

The Civil Aviation Authority, the regulatory body, has ordered tour operators to raise their bonds from 7 to 10 per cent of turnover.

The CAA directive follows lengthy consultation with the travel trade and comes after a record 20 package tour operators were forced to close last year. Budget and Exodus, including the highly competitive trading environment, 1985 will see a repeat of 1984's heavy casualties.

Increasing the safety bonds — normally bank guarantees — or other assets — will place further pressure on some tour

companies at a time when bookings have fallen sharply and holidaymakers face the prospect of some steep surcharges to compensate for the pound's decline.

The CAA said last night that it would be willing to consider a reduction in the £200 million bonding level when market conditions improve and tour operators are stronger.

However few in the industry believe that any improvement will be seen this year, with competition for customers likely to further intensify through a price-cutting war unless bookings pick up quickly.

The £200 million of safety bonds represents the holiday makers' first line of defence when a company collapses. The second line is the £15 million Air Travel Reserve Fund.

Last year more than 20,000 were spared by the failure of 20 tour companies.

VAT change called for 'flagship'

By our Economics Staff

The Chancellor should extend VAT gradually to goods which are now zero-rated, such as food, fuel and children's clothes, providing that he also changes other taxes and benefits to compensate low income earners for resulting losses.

This is the main conclusion of a paper to be published in the forthcoming Fiscal Studies, the journal of the Institute for the Fiscal Studies, by Evan Davis and John Kay. They point out that the application of across-the-board VAT could raise an additional £7 billion.

The paper argues that the main constraint on the Treasury in moving towards a more comprehensive VAT which would be neutral between different kind of goods and services are the distributional implications of taxing items proportionately large in poor households' budgets.

In a package designed to keep revenue unchanged, the IFS researchers advocate using the extra VAT revenue to raise tax thresholds and child benefits by 10 per cent; pensions by 14 per cent; and other benefits by 14 per cent.

The Illustrated London News, founded 143 years ago, has been mapped up by the American businessman, Mr James Sherwood, who intends to turn it into a flagship for a new publishing division.

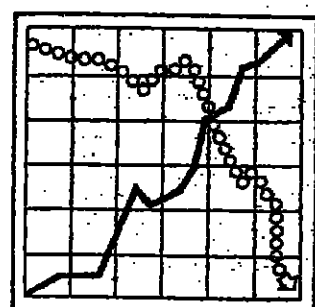
Mr Sherwood, the founder, president and chief executive of Sea Containers, is the leading force behind a partnership which paid International Thomson £1.4 million for the monthly prestige magazine, which makes profits of about £200,000 a year, but which has been lacking financial backing and promotion.

He intends to drive up its circulation to 100,000 within a year, from the present 60,000, and develop its quality image, giving a glossy window on London to both inhabitants and overseas visitors. Half of the ILS's sales go abroad, with former colonies high on the mailing list.

Mr Sherwood — who "is rich enough" to only do what he likes — is planning to start publishing a regular quarterly magazine, Orient Express, which is inspired by the Orient Express train service, which he also owns.

FINANCIAL GUARDIAN

If we adapt fast enough the jobs will still be there



ECONOMICS Christopher Hufnagel

WHAT SORT of future will our children really inherit? The most popular economic scenarios tend either to project an imminent paradise in which an abundance of human ingenuity provides for every unimagined want, or alternatively that society will be characterised by a growing gulf between ever richer haves and ever more deprived have-nots.

Neither millennial vision is in the remotest sense likely, as a new and fascinating study by the Nobel Prize-winning economist Wassily Leontief and his associates demonstrates conclusively.

Leontief shows, in a report from the Institute of Economics at New York University, which is due to be published by the Oxford University Press later this year, that much of the conventional wisdom about the new technology is simply wrong.

Far from it being likely that machines will displace workers, it is more likely that there will not be enough workers to operate all the machines we will want.

Equally, the changing structure of the labour force

will not be dominated by a decline in production workers, who will probably increase their share of jobs. But there will be a dramatic fall in office workers and a rise in the number of professionals.

"The Impacts of Automation on Employment 1983-2000" relies on Input-Output Analysis, a method clearly different from the more usual attempts to build computer models of the economy. It constructs a detailed picture of each sector of the economy, rather than just looking at the big aggregates like Gross Domestic Product which are all that is necessary for short-term forecasting.

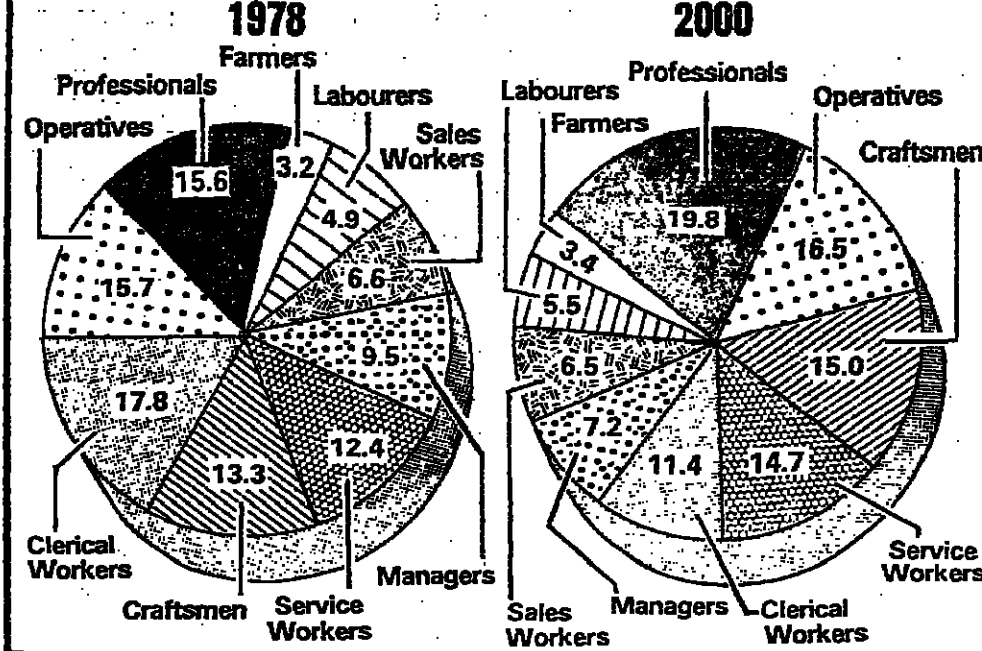
This approach makes sense because most of the impact of new technology comes through its gradual adoption as one process is phased out, and the new one phased in. The structure of the economy is like the proverbial oil tanker which takes 10 months to change course.

But in order to make their conclusions still more robust, the New York researchers project two different scenarios, one going to concentrate on the scenario which assumes a relatively rapid pace of technical change, partly because Leontief and Dr Faye Duchin believe it is the more realistic. The broad comparison between the occupational structure of the labour force in 1978 and in 2000 is shown in the cake charts.

The research of course looks at the United States economy, which starts with a slightly different occupational structure to our own. (For example, they have more farmers than we have.) However, the broad changes in the occupational structure between 1978 and 2000 will have parallels in Britain and other developed economies even if the starting points look slightly different.

Several important social implications stand out. First, the blue collar working class — do lose many of their existing

What sort of jobs in 2000? Percentage



jobs, but they are rehired in growing industries required to produce new equipment for the technological revolution.

The people who are really hammered are clerical workers whose share in the labour force declines from 17.8 per cent to 11.4 per cent as office automation gathers pace. There is simply enormous scope for improving office techniques.

At present, the average American office worker has only \$2,000 of capital equipment for a factory worker.

As Dr Duchin, a woman, points out, the implications of this change for economies like Britain and the United States where there are a lot of women in the labour force and a disproportionate number in clerical work — are that the trend towards more women working could be rapidly thrown into reverse unless women can adapt themselves to expanding occupations.

Maybe more will, Russian style, become labourers. Others will move into the gently expanding crafts or services. But the best bet for anyone is going to be the most rapidly expanding series of occupations of all — the professionals. And within the professional category, anybody with computer skills is going to be in great demand.

These calculations about the changing occupational structure are the ones about which the Leontief team feel most confident, but they also shed some light on the saloon bar wisdom that new

technology is going to destroy jobs in aggregate (as opposed to destroying specific jobs).

When the researchers projected the growth of demand for various categories of goods and services as compiled by the US Bureau of Labour Statistics, their favoured technological scenario simply generated too many jobs for what is likely to be the size of the American labour force in 2000. So they had to develop an alternative scenario which assumed a lower rate of technological change to create fewer jobs.

In other words, the study strongly implies that the likely technological changes up to 2000 are going to increase the demand for labour rather than reduce it. Exactly as past technological changes have done. If unemployment does stay high, it will be for other reasons such as the deflationary response of governments to wage bargainers' price-raising pay claims. It won't be due to new technology.

There are, though, some caveats to this conclusion at which I have already hinted. The forecast of final demand for goods and services is based on assumptions from the US government's projections rather than determined within the computer model itself. (The only element which arises from within the model is investment).

However, these projections hardly seem unrealistic since national income grows by 2 per cent a year in the 80s and by 0.5 to 1.1 per cent a year in the 90s.

One final caveat: the Leontief team has studied only the likely economic effects of computer based automation rather than, say, biotechnology. The latter, though, is likely to be of most impact in industries which are already capital intensive, with room for output expansion rather than labour-saving.

What the Leontief study underlines heavily, though, is that all those who talk about technological change destroying jobs do so at their — and our — peril. The real moral is that the faster we adapt ourselves to the skills and the opportunities of technical change, the more likely we are to be able to enjoy lower unemployment and higher living standards.

Will trade winds blow Lawson off the rocks?



INVESTMENT Robin Stoddart

AS HE stands on the heaving deck saluting his own wake, the Chancellor is in as bad a position as any of his predecessors to know in which direction he should swirl the budget helm. Awash with oil and hoist with confusing financial signals, the ship of state has had its engine run down and its bottom unscathed. Yet across the waves, the Wizard of Oz President continues blithely along his yellow brick road.

Confidence in the continuing growth of the United States economy has been the mainstay of markets around the world for many months. Non-inflationary expansion has enabled the Federal Government to cover its deficit with no difficulty at all. Naturally, its constant calls for new loans have kept interest rates much higher than they would have been otherwise. The Federal Reserve has, however, preserved a tight ship in money supply terms, so there has been no doubt about which currency was both sound and in demand from international banks and investors. The tide must eventually turn, though.

Britain's money supply figures have become yesterday's joke. By waving different flags around, switching hopelessly from M1 to M2, the Chancellor hoped to conceal the runaway growth of credit. The continuing steep rise in pay rates and the record leap in paper wealth told a different tale. Now that the lift from oil has run its course, it is by the real productive economy that progress will be judged.

There are very few areas in which Britain can confidently be said to be in the van of technological progress as applied to new products that are in demand and available from domestic manufacturers. From computers

and aircraft back to mechanical engineering and cars, the competitive situation has, if anything, continued to worsen in recent years. No doubt it is about to recover in some businesses as a result of the fall in the pound. But until the growth of exports of manufactures exceeds the soaring rate of increase of imports, the dependence on oil to pay for a sixth of imports is a blatant source of weakness.

At the Treasury, where oil revenue is probably about to leap to around 10 per cent of the total tax inflow, the situation is still more fraught. Expenditure has continued to run ahead of target, primarily because of the miners' strike. Privatisation is obviously even less bankable than oil as a regular source of funds. Cuts have often reached the limit of tolerance and any further reductions in capital spending might very well cost much more than they save in terms of immediate and long-term social changes.

In the US, federal spending has been increasing at an annual rate approaching double figures, but the President now proposes that it should fall in real terms — even though defence outlays will continue to soar. Firm support would be a casualty of the budget, but it is scarcely conceivable that further blows could be rained on the wheat belt without European surpluses coming a cropper, too.

Once again, the ease with which the US could solve its budgetary problems, with the Federal Government almost fading away from the economic scene as the President wishes, is remarkable by comparison with the situation in Europe. Lower oil prices provide an opportunity for tax increases as well as an economic stimulus. But the President has turned his face against any rise in the tax rate, all but cut income tax by a quarter in previous years.

Me-too policies such as Mrs Thatcher wanted to follow have pretty well gone by the board for Britain. Unemployment is now around twice the US rate, with no sign of any letup. There is still less scope for a reduction in social security outlays here than there is in the US, therefore. Any general reduction in income tax will have to be made good elsewhere. Britain has suffered for too long will threaten to become vicious. The only virtuous

course is export-led recovery and constraint on domestic consumption while repairs go on.

The problem created by the big US budget deficit, high interest rates and the stratospheric dollar for debtor countries can hardly be exaggerated. Apart from Mexico, which can come to a mutually beneficial arrangement with its neighbour as long as the oil price does not sink too far, only the steep rise in US imports has enabled the South American debtor countries to service their loans.

There is little prospect that the dollar will fall back much over the next few weeks when overseas investors will be buying new Treasury issues and foreign borrowers will be preparing to pay their interest. While there seems little likelihood of interest rates rising, the chances of a fall that would trigger off a similar movement round the world do not seem particularly promising either.

The Chancellor is therefore little more than a passenger, awaiting a move to lower dollar interest rates on one side and support for the oil price and therefore sterling on the other. All he can do is keep planning his counter-inflationary slogans to the mast and hope that the trade current will take the economy in the right direction at present yields. government stocks both of the fixed-interest and index-linked variety should be worth buying, the choice of one or the other should logically be made. Ahead of the next inflation figure, the latter have the edge when so little is within the Chancellor's control. Being in the right currency has been more important than being in the right stock market for much of the time and when the currency is weak it is wrong to be in any government stocks at all. That lesson has been driven home in the last few weeks, which allow Street scores new peaks, taking other international blue-chip shares with it, non-equity investment may continue to be relatively unrewarding. Savers are still getting a good deal, however.

FINANCIAL BOOKS

Harford Thomas reviews the latest books on the ecological argument

Green for go — but which way does one choose to turn?

Seeing Green: The Politics of Ecology. Explained, by Jonathan Porritt (Basil Blackwell, £2.95 paperback).

Green Politics: The Global Promise, by Fritjof Capra and Charles Spretnak (Blackwell, £14.95).

Fighting For Hope, by Petra Kelly (Chato and Windus, £4.95).

From Red To Green, by Rudolph Bahro (Verso, £12.50 hardback, £2.95 paperback).

The Green Movement in West Germany, by Elin Papadakis (Green Helm, £12.95).

LAST YEAR produced quite a crop of books on Green politics. On the evidence of this batch of five, most of the Green gurus remain, unhelpfully and indeed unhelpfully, as unbearably longwinded, repetitious and tired as ever.

Not so, however, with Jonathan Porritt, who would, no doubt, instantly deny guru status, he has been one of the most effective leaders of the Ecology Party and is the new director of the UK Friends of the Earth. Now his book Seeing Green: The Politics of Ecology Establishes him as a gifted writer.

It is a really first class account of the new wave of ecological thinking which, slowly but certainly, is beginning to make an impact on politics and economics. He writes with enviable clarity and sustained verve. Not a boring page, and his instinct for the sharply turned phrase is the right moment makes for more than a few good laughs.

Thus far I go along with Richard North's discussion of his book (Society Tomorrow, December 6), but I part company totally with North's assertion that Porritt's "gospel" is in some sense "totalitarian".

The key point Porritt is making is that there is an inextinguishable reasonableness about the ecological perspective which will have to be recognised by all parties and applied to all economic and social activities. But this will promote diversity, not totalitarianism.

Porritt is not writing a party political diatribe, but applying his considerable knowledge of the science and philosophy of ecology to economics, politics and social affairs.

Indeed, the cool reasonableness and the coherence of this book is its most persuasive quality. That is not to say that it is a dated, heavy point. Porritt remarks on "the mind-

boggling irrationality of contemporary reason", and on the way politicians themselves make it so difficult for people to see where their real interests lie.

The other four books in this batch of Greens are not in the same class as Porritt. All of them reflect the factious incoherence of the Green movement in Europe. The German Greens are their main interest, and a chaotic scene it is. This may explain though it does not excuse the indifferent presentation of these books.

Three neglect the ordinary courtesy of providing an index, source references and bibliography, without which the reader is doomed to plough wearily through page after page of leaden prose. These books are:

Green Politics: The Global Promise, by Fritjof Capra and Charles Spretnak written from an American perspective, based to a large extent on a somewhat disconnected round of interviews, mainly in west Germany, and not all attributed to a dated, heavy point. Porritt remarks on "the mind-

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Jonathan Porritt: "Clarity and sustained nerve"

Margaret Dibben on how people in other countries buy their houses

Home owners round the world

National Housing Finance Systems — a comparative study, by Mark Bolcat (Green Helm, £2.95).

IF Round Britain quiz gave a prize for guessing which country in the world has the highest proportion of home ownership and which has the lowest, it would lay a pound to a penny that no one would know the right answer. Just to save you wondering any longer, the answer is that Bangladesh has the highest and Switzerland the lowest. Yes, that is the right way round.

This intriguing snippet comes, with many others, from a book with the pedestrian title National Housing Finance Systems, by Mark Bolcat, who is deputy secretary general of the Building Societies Association.

Building society business is a simple one. Money comes in at one end (from savers) and goes out at the other (to house buyers). But building societies are a peculiarly British invention and it may never have occurred to UK home owners to wonder how inhabitants of other countries find the cash to buy their houses.

For example, in Japan, where owner occupation at 50 per cent is low given the general standard of living, one third of the demand is met by the government-owned Housing Loan Corporation. In West Germany most house buyers make up the money they need from several different sources: this will produce a package of loans from a Bausparkasse, a savings bank, a commercial bank and a mortgage bank. Over the border in France, there are numerous different types of lending institutions and different types of loan, including a state subsidised one. Here too a house buyer could well end up with a combination package.

In the United States there is very little government sponsored housing and the savings and loan associations are the main lenders, followed closely by commercial banks. Mortgage banks have a large share of the market for originating loans but they do not hold them. There is, in America, a secondary market in mortgages, which allows a person taking out a loan to sell it later on.

While these international comparisons are fascinating, the book has been written as a heavyweight comparative study of the world's housing finance systems at the request of the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Associations.

The book starts with two theoretical chapters giving a general overview and an analysis of housing problems in developing countries. It then details country by country the different systems and ends with a roundup comparison of the various international house funding methods.

This comparison shows that poor countries have a higher degree of home ownership, often over 80 per cent, and that housing tenure is generally higher in the countryside than in the towns.

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National Housing Finance Systems is the first, and will probably be the only, detailed study of housing problems in other countries. It is extraordinarily comprehensive and brings together a wealth of information from all over the world, although lack of information from some of the developing countries means that a few chapters are sketchier than the general standard of the book.

There is just one glaring omission: the book has no index.

How shared ownership strengthens capitalism by Margareta Pagano

Shared Ownership, by George Copeman, Peter Moore, Carol Arrowsmith (Gower, £12.50).

IS THERE life after BT? After all the hype over the recent British Telecom offer this is the question still vexing serious advocates of wider share ownership. Can a share in the country's infrastructure assets ever be spread beyond the present very tiny proportion of shares held by small investors?

Whatever the political merits of the BT flotation it certainly caught the public's imagination. It has gone some way to help the Government's desire to spread share ownership by doubling overnight the number of private investors. Of course it also brought much needed cash into its coffers.

Whether it has actually popularised share ownership to the extent that more of the public — even new BT shareholders — will be tempted to dip into the Stock Exchange as an alternative investment vehicle is impossible to determine. This

will be interesting to monitor over the next few years, particularly for the forthcoming TSB and British Airways offers for sale. But the challenge to Government to improve the means of attracting new shareholders is still very real.

A new publication, Shared Ownership by three co-authors, including Dr George Copeman, one of the country's leading authorities on employee share schemes, is a timely and valuable contribution to the debate. Their in-depth analysis — and critique — of ownership in post-war Britain is a provocative read, and should be seriously considered by all colours of the political spectrum.

Their starting point is that the real failure of Britain's industrial legacy over the last few decades has been the inability to share the rewards of success — both income and capital growth — with employees. Not only do they present an extremely forceful case for wider share ownership per se, which can be best achieved through employee share schemes, but claim that their

widespread use can lead to increased efficiency and profitability in business.

They remind us that while the nation's wealth is split almost equally between domestic and industrial assets, some 60 per cent of domestic assets are owned privately but just a meagre 4 per cent of the working population own shares in industry and business. Although recent legislation has made employee schemes far more attractive the authors argue further tax relief should be allowed for employees to start building their share of industrial capital.

Benefits of wider ownership are numerous, they argue. First, it allows employees to build up capital and income, it should improve industrial relations by removing the "them and us" ethos and can increase industrial competitiveness by the natural loyalties that employees will have to their firm (although probably only 20 per cent of a firm will be owned by employees).

But they also recognise that spreading the existing wealth of

a business would be unfair to shareholders and that it should be confined to sharing out any increase in wealth that is created.

On the political level the authors believe that shared ownership removes a prime justification for state ownership — other than exceptional cases where state financing is necessary for an industry to exist — most cases this could be reduced to less than 50 per cent with the balance held by investors and employees. The organisation should compete for capital and customers in the open market.

At the same time they recognise that attempts to use the tax system to create social justice by spreading money has been equally unsuccessful. Indeed both present capitalist and communist economic systems come under fire as having miserably failed to solve the central question of ownership. While accepting that capitalism is the most productive system of all, it has been deserted by some 70 per cent of the world's population.

Obviously, there must be something wrong somewhere.

So the main area for reform, they believe, is the tax system, which should be designed to encourage everybody to create as much capital as possible even if the majority have to depend on a share scheme at work to earn some capital. Ownership is the best way so far tried and this could also be extended through to pension schemes and other means of saving which can take ownership to all members of the community and non-business sectors.

The authors take pains to stress that shared ownership should not be perceived as just a modified theory of the market sector — but "a core part of a new theory of enterprise which can affect decisively the role of public services". Shared ownership makes it possible to redraw the boundaries.

After all, they conclude, the failure of business to share capital growth with employees is discredited. The free market system and, therefore, leads to

an unhealthy concentration of ownership and decision-making. "Thus a weakness in capitalism is found to be also a potential weakness in democracy." But they claim, shared ownership will actually strengthen capitalism by spreading rewards, power and responsibility, and provide "ideological common ground between East and West."

The book is action-packed with case studies, descriptions of share schemes and statistics such as dispersal rates of shares held by employees.

All alternatives to the present confrontational style business structures must be welcomed. But the key to any new system of ownership surely lies as much in the decision-making and power potential held by employees as ownership. So long as real financial muscle remains invested in the vast pension fund and insurance institutions any reform on this front is remote. But, as the authors so rightly point out, ownership structure of the institutions too must be reformed.

IN BRIEF

THE Japanese have always been good at making the small things in life, from transistor radios to microchips. Is this luck or a special gift?

The Korean author of Small is Better (Premier Book Marketing, £16), O-Young Lee believes it is a gift set deep in the Japanese consciousness and one key reason for the country's recent remarkable economic growth.

£25). Big companies, say the authors George Luffman and Richard Reed, have performed better than smaller firms and must cast some new doubt on the view that Britain's future lies predominantly in fostering small firms.

THAT unique journal of aviation Jane's All the Worlds Aircraft (Jane's 200) is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Jane's appeared in the year that Eliot first flew the Channel but its value as the definitive reference work has not been diminished by age.

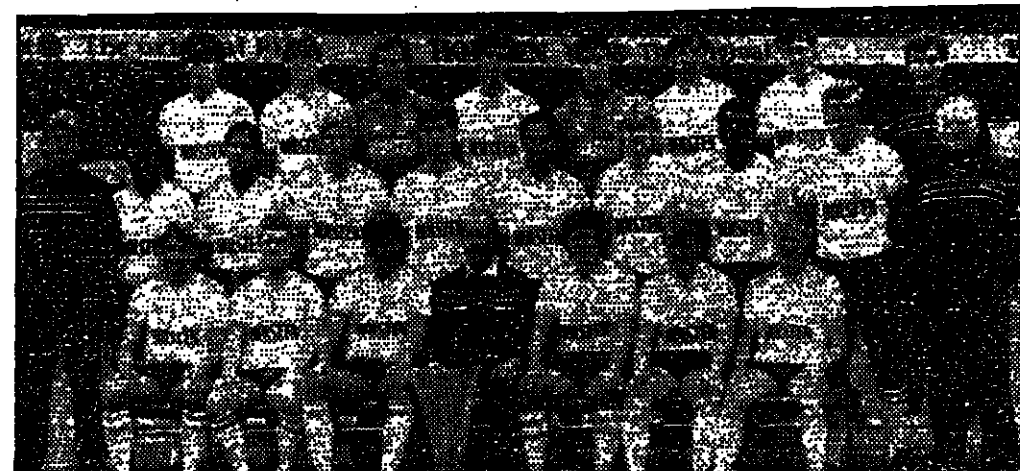
City unimpressed by Spurs' form

By Geoffrey Gibbs

Tottenham Hotspur's large army of shareholder fans were yesterday given as much reason to cheer the company's success in the transfer market as they already have to be cock-a-hoop about the team's current performance on the field.

Despite being knocked out of the two domestic cup competitions the North London club are challenging strongly for the league title and are about to face a financially appetising quarter final tie with one of Europe's most glamorous clubs, Real Madrid, in the UEFA Cup, the European competition they won last year.

Tottenham are enjoying bumper takings at the turnstiles thanks to the current run of good form. Average home attendances for the first 11 games of this season were 29,000 compared with 28,500 over the whole of last year and next month's home leg of the Real Madrid tie will alone produce gross takings of more than £200,000. But it is the company's successful dealings in the tough world of the transfer market that paid the real dividends in the first half of the current financial period.



Tottenham Hotspur... First British football club to secure a full market listing

Half time figures announced yesterday show Tottenham soared to a pre-tax profit of £821,000 during the six months to November. That compared with a deficit of £459,000 in the corresponding months a year ago when the company suffered a £692,000 loss on its transfer fee account.

In the first half of the current year, by contrast, transfer activity generated a profit of £626,000, made up of the sale of Alan Brazil, Steve Archibald and Gary O'Reilly for a total of £1.73 million and the purchase of two players — Clive Allen and John Chiedozie — for £1.1 million.

On top of these successful dealings Tottenham scooped a windfall currency gain of £99,000 largely as a result of Archibald's move to Barcelona, Europe's richest football club.

We declined to accept seats and insisted on a dollar based club to secure a full stock market listing for its shares, is paying an interim dividend of 1.5p a share to the 10,400 investors who now have a stake in the company.

Although the number of shareholders has increased by around 12 per cent since Spurs made their City debut in October 1983, the share price remains little to crow about. Yesterday the shares held steady at 78p — well below the 100p at which they were offered for sale.

Mr Bobroff is unperturbed by the current City rating. It is up to the market to decide what value it places on the company. We will let events decide whether that is right or wrong," he commented.

Tottenham, which last year went on to make a pre-tax profit of £410,000, is meanwhile awaiting final approval to build a 3,500 seat indoor sports arena at its White Hart Lane ground.

The proposed development incorporating shopping, restaurant and office facilities is expected to take up to two years to complete once work gets under way.

Unibond, the glues and sealants groups that joined the Unlisted Securities Market just over a year ago, is changing hands in a £13,700,000 takeover deal.

Pharmaceutical and toiletries giant Beecham has reached agreement on a 22.5p share offer — more than double the price at which the shares were originally quoted.

The founding Bushey family, who, joined with other shareholders, control just over 60 per cent of the shares, already have irrevocable undertakings to accept the bid.

Deals in Unibond shares were suspended on the Stock Exchange on Tuesday standing at 15.5p. Yesterday they immediately went racing ahead 61p to 216p on news of the offer terms.

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Unibond is one of Britain's leading manufacturers of glues and sealants for builders, merchants and DIY enthusiasts.

Beecham said the takeover represented a further stage in plans to build up a branded home improvements products business on an international scale.

Edited by Tony May

Fading rate cuts hopes leave shares in limbo

THE MARKETS

Now that the prospect of an early cut in interest rates has faded for the time being, following Tuesday's rather uninspiring money and bank lending figures, stock markets drifted into a state of limbo yesterday.

Glits ended little changed having charted a narrow course for most of the session. Equities opened cautiously, but moved selectively ahead as the day progressed, with most of the activity centred upon takeover situations, both rumoured and actual.

Another flurry of bid speculation surrounding Debenhams sent the group's shares racing ahead 21p to 216p today. But both the group and rumoured suitor, Hanson were sticking to a policy of "no comment". At Debenhams a spokesman said: "We have been the subject of bid speculation for many years and do not comment on rumours." Hanson Trust repeated: "We never comment on market rumours."

Electricals had a dull session after a recent batch of rather cautious trading statements concerning the current state of the components industry. Falls in this sector ranged between 4p and 10p but Thorn EMI resisted the trend at 451p, up 12p, on persistent investment support. Elsewhere among leaders ICI remained in demand ahead of results due later this month, up 12p more to 874p.

Home computer stocks had a nervous session after the suspension of Acorn at 28p, down 7p, pending an announcement. As B. Electronics, component suppliers to the industry, dipped 13p to 449p in sympathy.

TI Group suffered from the downgrading of profit forecasts by two major brokers. The shares lost 8p to 212p after dipping to 202p. Dunlop shed 2p to 30p after a rather ambiguous statement from BTZ (up 5p to 672p) that they had reached agreement with Dunlop's principal bankers on financing for the group after the acquisition.

Banks were supported ahead of the dividend season with gains to 12p. Oils recovered most of their early falls that followed publicity to the Mexico price cutting plans. Foods and tobacco improved, and newspapers returned to favour.

Money brokers and merchant banks further progressed on rationalisation hopes. Lazard was wanted for a similar reason. Teas eased ash with the commodity prices. Golds gained 1p to 82.

Among the leaders, movements were mixed though losses tended to predominate. Hanson Trust, mentioned as a possible bidder for Debenhams, gained 10p to 220p. Natwest gained 10p to 170p. Bankers' Plessey slipped with the electricals, down 5p to 173p.

Beecham, however, which

launched a bid for Unibond, firmed by 2p at 360p. Unibond which had been suspended at 15.5p, closed at 216p. Elsewhere, Mulhead saw further profit-taking which left them 8p lower at 124p and M. L. Holdings gave up 5p to 347p after Tuesday's figures.

Comment helped the West Group gain 3p to 44p, but Westland fell by 6p to 12p on helicopter order worries. In the depressed electronics sector, Ferranti slipped 9p to 145p and Unitech lost 12p to 253p following yesterday's cautious statement.

Webber Electro fell 5p to 155p after disappointing profits, but Cable and Wireless improved by 13p to 527p on the sale of some subsidiaries. The absence of contract news hurt the depressed electronics sector. Ferranti slipped 9p to 145p and Unitech lost 12p to 253p following yesterday's cautious statement.

In foods, Pauls gained 5p to 375p awaiting bid moves. Booker increased by 7p to 279p on Dee bid hopes, and Dee strengthened by 11p to 209p, awaiting a bid decision.

Textiles saw Style lose 3p to 165p. The British Land tender offer for Lanes, Town Centre, however, firmed by 4p to 47p hoping that British Land may bid for them. Tobaccoes saw BAT Industries improve by 7p to 383p following recent comment.

Revived bid hopes helped chemical company W. Cammell gain 11p to 106p. Elsewhere, builder, J. Hewitt was another speculative counter, 9p up to 74p.

Oils staged a small rally, but subsequently slipped back again. Falcon Resources began the day strongly, reaching 537p ahead of an analysts meeting yesterday. They then met profit-taking, however, which left them down 14p to 519p. BP gave up 12p to 541p.

In the banking sector, firm shares and the dividend season, Lloyds gained 12p to 599p, and Royal Bank of Scotland improved by 6p to 266p after the clearance of the Charterhouse Japhet merger. FNAC helped by recent comment, gained 4p to 99p.

Insurance brokers had a fairly good day, and Minel, encouraged by St. Paul's takeover speculation, gained 9p to 277p. Money brokers R. P. Martin gained 20p to 405p after the bid approach.

Elsewhere, losses at Martin Ford saw them down 2p to 25p. Bony Shep strengthened 20p to 555p thanks to investment support. B. Plessey, however, added 3p to 79p on news that

estate agents Mann and Co are coming to the market. New Court Resources met speculative demand which left them 10p better at 60p.

Main changes: Dunlop 36p down 2p, Thorn 451p up 12p, BTR 672p up 5p, TI Debenhams 212p down 8p, ICI 874p up 12p, AB Electronics 449p down 12p, Acorn Comp 28p down 7p (suspended).

Equity turnover for February 5: Number of bargains 20,980, value £379.943 million.

● Paris: Share prices moved higher across a broad front in active trading in the absence of any apparent stimulus. The market indicator was ahead 1 per cent at the end of business and advances outnumbered declines by 113 to 48 in the French section.

● Frankfurt: Prices of shares finished higher again in lively trading backed by large foreign orders. The Commerzbank index rose 11.8 points to stand at 1,147.2. The Commerzbank index has reclaimed a large part of the territory it lost on Monday when it fell 17.4 points to 1,139.2.

● Tokyo: Stock prices closed mixed in heavy but uninspired trading. Nikkei Dow Jones index: 11,867.17 (11,823.43).

● Hong Kong: Share prices dropped in moderate trading but brokers described as consolidation. Hang Seng index: 1,333.31 (1,352.47).

● Money markets: Period rates were firmer as the last lingering base rate hopes mostly flew out of the window. While money was expensive for most of the day as heavy over-subscription of the Hillsdown Holdings offer for sales disrupted the money flows. Interbank rates for funds opened around 14 1/4 - 14 1/2, firmed slightly to 14 1/4 - 14 1/2 and eased over the course of the morning to 13 1/2 - 13 3/4 by midday. They eased down to 13 1/4 - 13 1/2 in the late part of the afternoon, but turned up sharply at the close, around 15 1/4. Period rate firmed in all positions, but most sharply at the short end, where the 'ones' were up 5-

FT Ordinary Share Index up 0.9 at 883.3. FT-SE 100 Index up 0.4 at 1289.5. Pound: \$1.1138; DM 3.59; Fr 10.95. Gold: \$382.00. Account January 25 to February 8. FT All Share Index up 1.75 at 619.42. Sterling Index 71.5 (1975=100). RPI 358.5 (December) up 4.6 per cent on year.

COMMODITIES

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BBC-1

6 0 am Ceefax AM. 6 30 Breakfast Time. 9 0 Pages from Ceefax. 10 30 Play School. 10 50 Pages from Ceefax. 12 30 pm News Afternoon. 12 50 Regional News. 1 00 Pebble Mill at One. 1 45 Baggus. 2 0 The Afternoon Show. 2 40 Pages from Ceefax. 3 40 Regional News (except London and Scotland). 3 50 Play School. 4 10 The Family. 4 15 Jackanory. The BFG by Roald Dahl. 4 30 Doganator and the Three Musketeers. 4 50 John Craven's Newsround. 5 0 Blue Peter. Ceefax subtitles. 5 30 European Figure Skating Championships. 5 50 Weather.

6 0 NEWS.

6 55 TOMORROW'S WORLD. Latest news on the science and technology front.



Paul Daniels

7 20 ODD ONE OUT. Paul Daniels presents the clock-the-incongruity quiz.

7 50 TOP OF THE POPS introduced by Richard Skinner and Gary Davies.

8 30 A QUESTION OF SPORT. David Coleman with captains Bill Beaumont, Emyln Hughes, and the sporting quiz. Ceefax subtitles.

9 0 NEWS; weather.

9 25 CHARTERS AND CALDECOTT. 5. Northern Lights. Robin Bailey and Michael Aldridge as the couch odd-cudders — this week code-cracking letters about public school cricket matches. In Keith Waterhouse's cheeky thriller. Ceefax sub-titles.

10 15 QUESTION TIME. Another topical debate, with the public popping pertinent questions. Robin Day in the chair. Dr Elizabeth Gannell, Chris Patten MP, David Penhaggon MP providing answers.

11 15 EUROPEAN FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS. East Germany's defending champion, Olympic gold medalist Katarina Witt, looks set to win the Ladies' Free Programme — with Britain's Sue Jackson hoping to edge into Europe's top ten. Plus another look at Barber and Slater wowing the crowds with their original set pattern dance, bidding to improve on the European bronze medals they won two years ago, in spite of a Russian revival. Alan Weeks reports on the afternoon's critical quickstep routines... 11 55 Weather; close.

Wales: 5 30 pm interval. 5 35-5 55 News. 6 0-6 55 Scotland. 6 30-6 55 Week in Wales out.

BBC-2

6 55-7 20 am Open University. 9 0 Pages from Ceefax. 9 20 Daytime on Two: Encounter. Germany. 9 30 Encounter. Spain. 10 12 Science Workshop. 10 30 Scene. 11 5 The History Trail. 11 30 Outlook. 11 55 Better Badminton. 12 20 pm News. 12 40 Encounter. 12 45 Out of the Underworld. 1 20 Encounter. Italy. 1 25 Around Scotland. 2 0 You and Me. 2 15 Music Time. 2 40 Wales. 3 0 World Bowls. 4 55 World Skiing Championships.

5 25 NEWS with sub-titles; weather.

5 30 SPEAK OUT. Last of the series linking London teenagers with their New York and Moscow counterparts.

6 0 MONKEY: The Minx and The Sling. Another in the re-run Japanese-made TV adventure series.

6 40 CARTOON TWO. Tales From Hoff-nung. Birds, Bees and Storks.

6 45 THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH. Or the two-hour yawn... Billy Wilder's sophisticated but irritating 1955 sex comedy, about pathetic hubby Tom Ewell, abandoned by a vacationing wife in steamy summertime New York, fantasising an affair with the sexy model upstairs, Marilyn Monroe. His daydreams don't even get him to first base.

7 30 OUT OF COURT. David Jessel and Sue Cook in the studio — Ed Boyle out in the mean streets — reporting on the weekly legal magazine.

9 0 THE MISTRESS. Felicity Kendal as adulterous Maxine, living with a neutered cat and rabbit — but not her craven lover Luke, in the latest unfunny Carla Lane series.

9 30 FORTY MINUTES. The Outcasts. That's what they call themselves — the outlaw bikers of Yarmouth, roaming on their 'cruisers' (distinguishing customised bikes) with their 'Ehels' (women) hanging on for dear life behind them; or 'getting stomped' (beaten up) and maybe even 'fibbed' (knifed) by 'tooled up' (weapon-carrying) adversaries. Of course, they also have to earn a living somehow, so they'll know where their next pair of distaff 'riders' (biking trousers) are coming from...

10 10 WORLD INDOOR BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP. Dougie Donnelly introduces action from the second quarter-final played tonight at the Costbridge Indoor Bowling Club.

10 50 WOODSTOCK. Highlights of today's matches.

12 5 OPEN UNIVERSITY. 12 40 Close.

Scotland: 6 30-6 55 pm Preschool.

ITV London

6 15 am Good Morning Britain. 9 25 News Headlines; Schools. 9 30 Middle English. 9 45 Junior Maths. 10 6 Seeing and Doing. 10 23 Your Living Body. 10 40 Evolution. 11 2 Let's Go Maths. 11 14 Alive and Kicking. 11 31 Start the Day. 11 43 The Micro at Work. 12 1 The Little Green Man. 12 10 pm Moonlight & Co. 12 30 The Sullivan. 1 0 News. 1 20 Thames News. 1 30 Falcon Crest. 2 30 Daytime. 3 0 News. 3 25 News Headlines. 3 30 Sons and Daughters. 4 0 The Little Green Man. 4 15 The Moonlight. 4 30 Sooty. 4 40 Words, Words, Words. 5 5 Dangerous. 5 15 European Figure Skating Championships.

5 45 NEWS; weather.

6 0 THAMES NEWS with Andrew Gardner and Tina Jenkins.

6 30 THAMES SPORT. Steve Rider with the latest news of the skating championships at Gothenburg, and 70-year-old Sir Stanley Matthews talking about soccer yesterday and today.

7 0 KNIGHT RIDER. Custom Made Killer. David Hasselhoff as the high-tech knight errant in the computerised supercar KITT.

8 0 DUTY FREE. Eric Chappell and Jean Warr's xenophobic sitcom looks even funnier, second time around — with romantically susceptible Keith Barron and Joanna Van Gysegem; increasingly suspicious Gwen Taylor and Neil Stacy.

9 30 HOTEL. Ideals. Anne Baxter, James Brolin, embroiled in more drama, romance, and intrigue with the glamorous guests of San Francisco's St. Gregory Hotel.

9 30 TV EYE.

10 0 NEWS AT TEN. Thames News Headlines.

10 30 KOIAK. Marker for a Dead Bookie. Telly Savalas as the lolly-lucking cop, plotting an elaborate con to fool dope-dealing Janis into believing he can be bought — until a pusher for Janis spots one of his undercover cops...

11 30 THE EUROPEAN FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS. Steve Rider introduces the action at Gothenburg: the Ladies' Free Programme, and the Ice Dance Original Set Pattern with Barber and Slater quickstepping their way, hopefully, to victory.

12 25 NIGHT THOUGHTS with Monsignor John Crowley. Closedown.

Channel 4

2 30 pm The British at War. Wartime feature and propaganda films. Burma Victory; Partners in Crime, with Basil Radford and Naumton Wayne; A Diary for Timothy. 4 25 Countdown.

5 0 THE MAN BETWEEN. Carol Reed's moody 1953 melodrama with a tense climax, starring James Mason as the cynical East Berlin black marketeer, uncharacteristically risking his neck to rescue the girl he loves — innocent young Claire Bloom — from the clutches of kidnapping Communies, in a film distinctly reminiscent of Reed's earlier Third Man. With Hildegard Neff as Mason's ex-wife.

7 0 CHANNEL FOUR NEWS. 7 50 Comment by Lord Melchett; weather.

8 0 DISCOVERY. David Bellamy and science journalist Miranda Robertson look into the social habits of the harper (Paul Hamburger).

8 30 TREASURE HUNT. Girl in a helicopter. Anna Rice (who got out of last week, only to run smack into a cantering horse, which made her look quite dazed for a moment or two) this week scans Somerset for the £1,000 prize.

9 30 THE PRICE. In the penultimate episode of the acclaimed thriller, the IRA kidnappers turn uglier than ever (which is saying something...) and millionaire Peter Barkworth agrees to dropping the ransom without letting the police in on the action.

10 30 BILLIARDS. The Blue Arrow Masters. Willy veteran Fred Davis, a former world champion in both snooker and billiards, takes on Alex Hurregan Higgins — twice world professional snooker champion, whose eccentric and aggressive billiards style is likely to pain purists accustomed to subtle little nudges and deflections.

11 15 COURT REPORT. Today's reportable proceedings from Regina v. Pouting.

11 45 ASSAULTED NUTS. Zany laugh-in sketches from the likes of Tim Brooke-Taylor, Barry Cryer, and a host of others.

12 10 HALL OF MIRRORS. Professor James Mackay discusses the contribution of 'today's' world, with theist minister Rev Dr Colin Morris, the BBC's head of religious broadcasting, 12 35 Close.

54C: 1 0 pm Countdown. 1 30 Alice. 2 0 Beth. 2 30 Pam. 3 00 A Day. 3 30 Palabam. 2 35 Hwt. 3 55 Egypt. 3 55 The Making of Britain. 3 55 In Search of Wild Asparagus. 4 20 A Plus. 4 40 Palabam. 5 0 Scubi-Dw. 5 25 Hanner. 5 30 35 The Mary Tyler Moore Show. 6 0 Brookside. 6 30 Peppino. 7 0 Newydd. 7 30 The 100. 8 0 Eidal. 8 50 Close. 9 30 Danquah. 9 55 The Falconer. 10 15 World Cinema: Man of Marble (1978, dir. Andrzej Wajda). 1 0 am Diwed.

Radio 1

6 0 am Adrian John. 7 0 Mike Read. 9 0 Simon Bates. 12 00 noon Gary Davies. 2 30 pm Gary Byrd. 5 0 Bruno Brookes. 7 30 Janice Long. 10 0-12 0 Into the Music.

Radio 2

4 0 am Collin Berry. 6 0 Ray Moore. 8 5 Ken Bruce. 10 30 Jimmy Young. 1 5 pm David Jacobs. 2 0 pm Gloria Hunniford. 3 30 Music all the Way. 4 0 David Hamilton. 5 0 John Dunn. 6 0 Wally Whymon. 7 0 Extra: Ryan O'Neal. 11 30 Star Sound. 12 0 am Charles Nove. 5 0-4 0 Bobby Watson.

Radio 3

6 55 Weather. 7 0 News; Morning Concert. 9 0 News; This Week's Composer. Berg: Four Songs. Op 3. Heather Harper (Paul Hamburger). Chamber Concerto (Sviatoslav Richter, piano, Oleg Kagan, violin, Moscow Conservatoire Ensemble). 10 0 News. 10 30 Overture King Lear (ENO/Gibson). Fantasy of The Tempest (John Aldis Choir/LSO/Colin Davis). Sequenza (Giovanni Schena). 11 0 News. 11 30 Mott: Ballade, Op 16; Albeniz: El Puerto; Triana (Iberia). BBC SO, cond Sir John Pritchard. Beethoven: Overture Fidelio; Symphony No 8. 11 45 Six Continents. 12 5 BBC SO, part 2. Strauss: Ein Heldenleben. 1 0 News; Birmingham Lunchtime Concert. Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor. A Careers Course in Song devised by Roger Vignoles. Cynthia Bush (soprano), Henry Harford (baritone), Roger Vignoles (piano). 2 0 Oxford String Quartet. Haydn: Quartet Op 77 No 1; Morawetz: Quartet No 1. 2 55 A La ronde. Three-act opera by Puccini. Sung in Italian with Kiri Te Kanawa, Placido Domingo, Ambrosiano Opera Chorus, LSO. 4 55 News; Mainly for Pleasure. 6 30 News; Central Band of the Royal Air Force, cond Wg Cdr Eric Banks. Gordon Jacob: Original suite for Military Band. R. Walton O'Donnell: Songs of the Gael. 7 0 Bach on Record. Historic performances of the 48 made by Ferruccio Busoni, Arnold Dolmetsch, Harold Samuel, Isabelle Rauer, Arthur Schnabel, Isabelle Rauer, Wilhelm Schnabel. 7 30 News; Scottish RSO Concert given by the chorus and orchestra of Italian Radio, cond Bruno Martini, with Patricia Pace/Miwako Matsumoto (soprano), Helga Müller-Molin (mezzo), Korio Zennaro (tenor). Part 1: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 2: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 3: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 4: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 5: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 6: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 7: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 8: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 9: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 10: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 11: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 12: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 13: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 14: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 15: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 16: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 17: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 18: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 19: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 20: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 21: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 22: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 23: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 24: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 25: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; Part 26: Sinfonia 1, 2, 5, 11, 16, 18; 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